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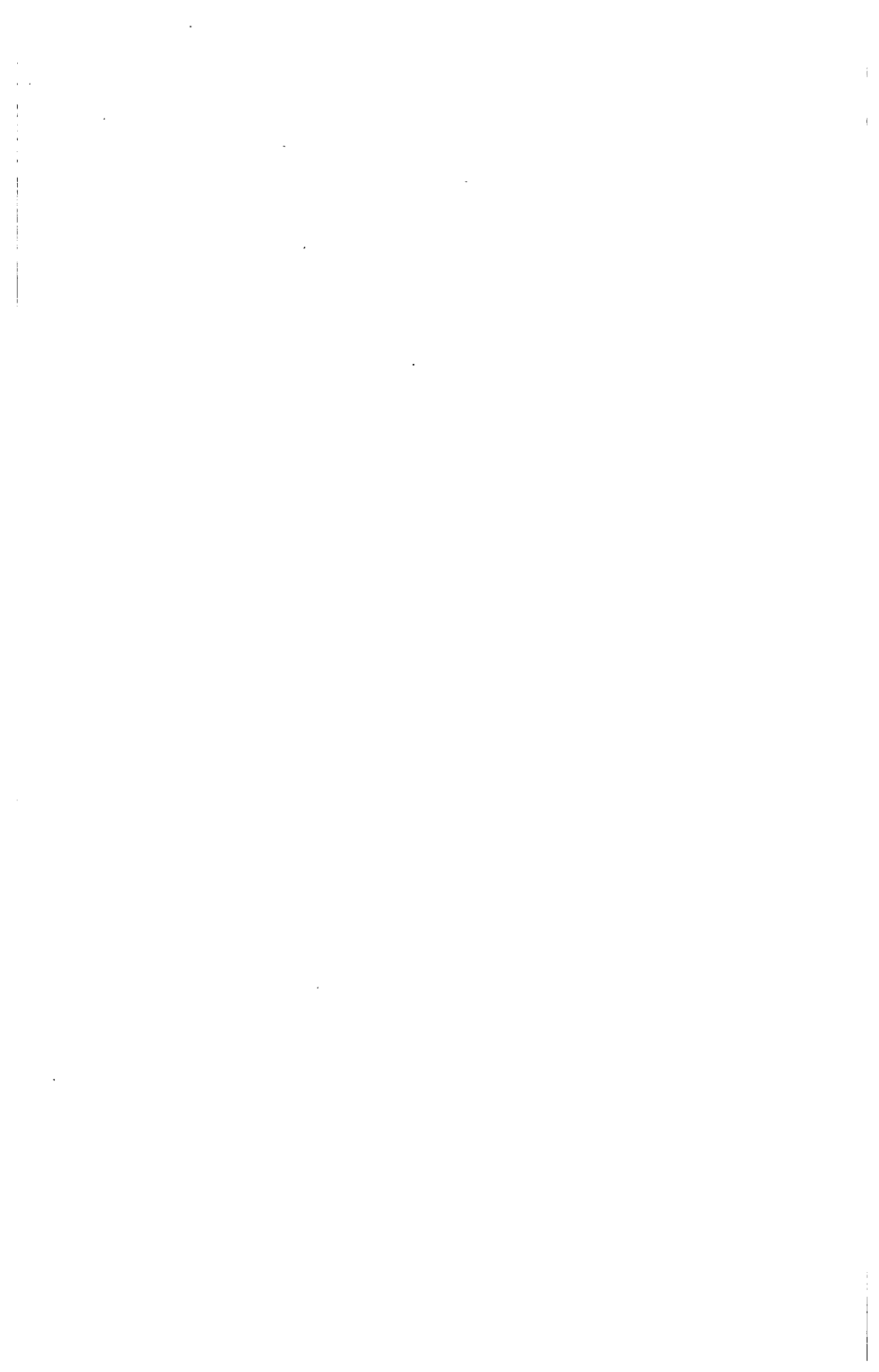
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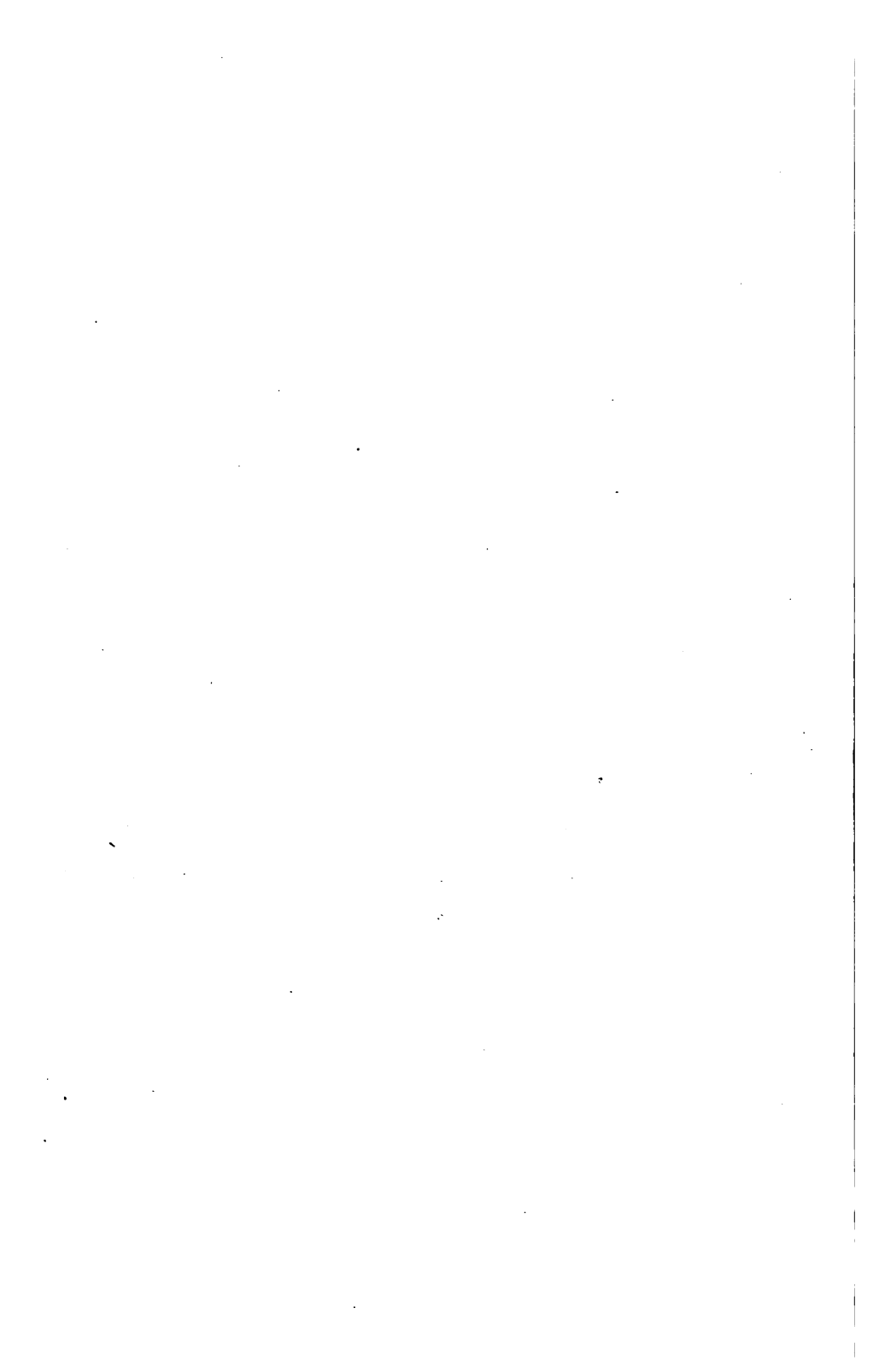
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WEST WORCESTERSHIRE WORDS.





A GLOSSARY OF

WEST WORCESTERSHIRE WORDS

BY MRS. CHAMBERLAIN.

WITH GLOSSIC NOTES BY THOMAS HALLAM.

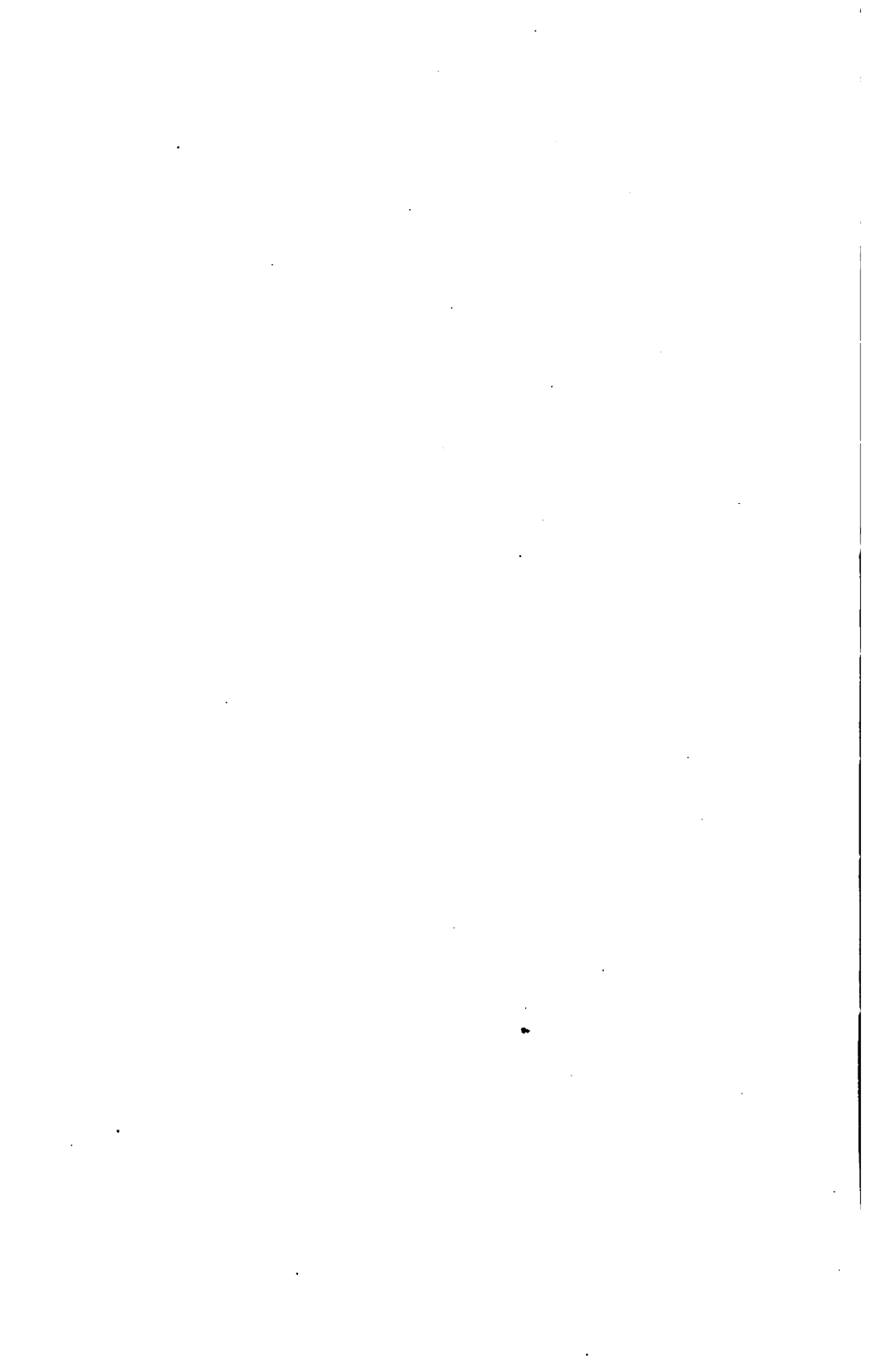


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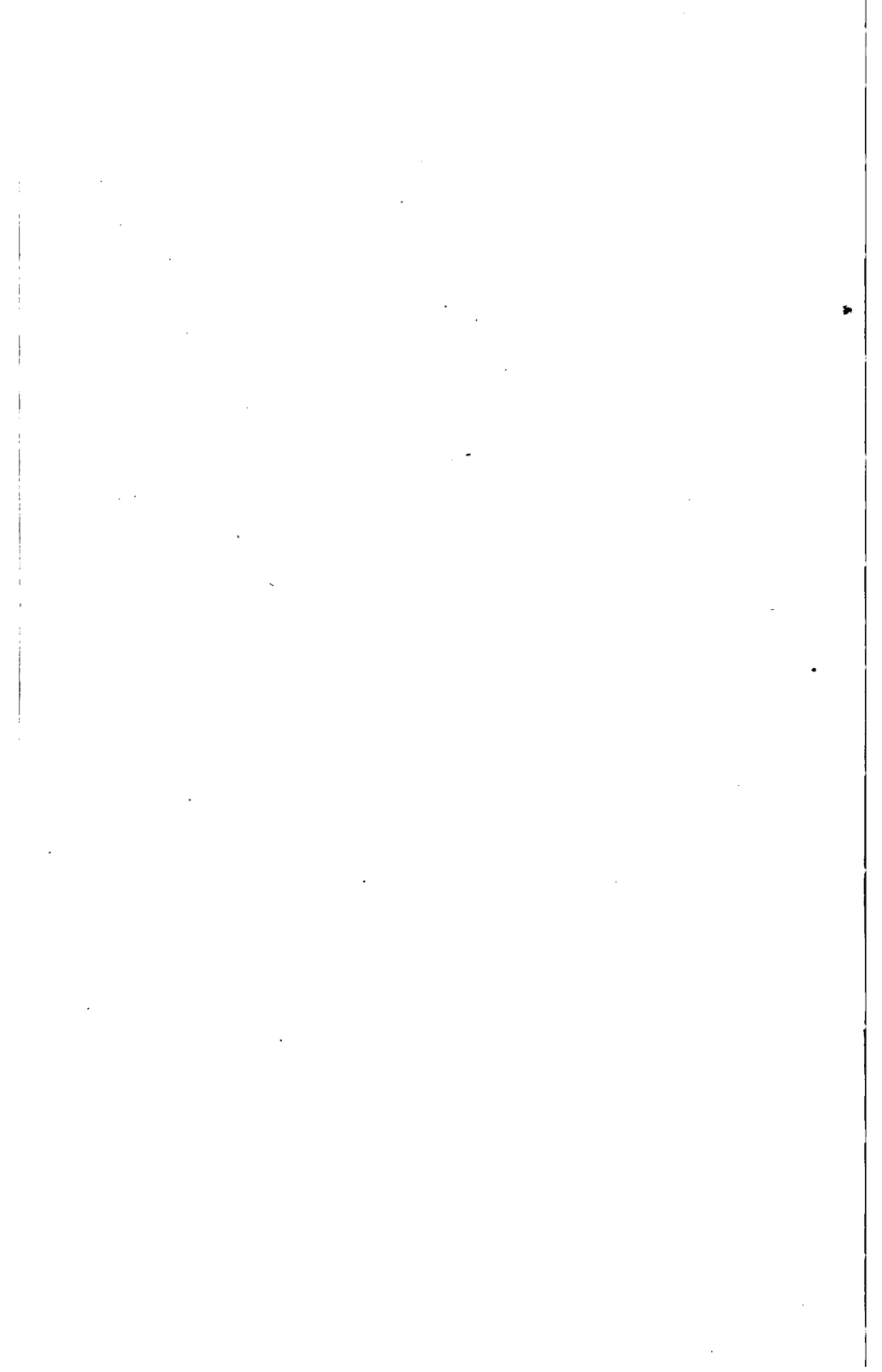
1882.



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This Glossary ranks as **C. 28** in the Original Series.



P R E F A C E.

THIS glossary of West-Worcestershire words, now published by the English Dialect Society, has been compiled with a view to further one object of the Society's work, viz. to ascertain in what different districts the use of the same word prevails. To this I would call the attention of critics outside the Society, who are apt to conclude, when they meet in a local glossary with an old word with which they are familiar, that the compiler fancied its use was peculiar to his own county.

There is no need to account further for the *raison d'être* of the work, which records (imperfectly, I fear) some of the words and modes of speech of the old Worcestershire folks, whose dialect, though interesting and peculiar, has hitherto received little attention.

Under the teaching of certificated masters in government schools the dialect is being rapidly modified; perhaps on the whole it is strange it does not disappear faster. Young people educated in these schools will often talk among themselves in broad Worcestershire, while they address their pastors, masters, and betters in the nearest approach to Queen's English to which they have been able to attain.

There are many expressions commonly used by the old people, which from the mouth of an educated person would be thought pedantic, or to savour of American slang. *Daunt* (pronounced *dahnt*) is used for dishearten; a book or newspaper is *p'roused* (perused); a greedy boy is told not to be *covetchous*; a baby or a geranium cutting is *rared* (reared); and a woman apologizing for an untidy room would say, 'I be in a *plight* sure-l̄y, I never see

such a farm (form) as the things be in.' A sharp boy is said to be *cute*, to have plenty of *gumption*, and is called a *dab* at his lessons.

The unsophisticated nature of the people will best be shown by the mention of some of their superstitions and cures, almost all of which I have known to be put in practice during the last five years.

CURES.

Whooping-cough is prescribed for by a woman who has married for her second husband a man whose name is the same as was her maiden name. Bread and butter with sugar on it is the favourite remedy, but whatever she orders is thought a certain cure. (1878.)

Whooping-cough is also cured by cutting twenty hairs from the nape of the patient's neck; these are placed between slices of bread and butter, and given to the first strange dog that passes the house; the Lord's Prayer is repeated over him, and then he is let go, and carries away the disease. (1880.)

Coughs are cured by holding a frog to the mouth of the patient, who must breathe into the mouth of the frog. A woman related how she had cured her child in this manner, and added, 'It went to my heart to hear the poor frog go coughing about the garden.' (1879.)

Hands or feet 'gone to sleep' are cured by spitting on the finger and crossing the afflicted member.

Bleeding of the nose is cured by standing opposite the patient, bowing to him, and then squeezing hard the little finger on the side of the nostril from which the bleeding comes.

Burns on the hands are cured by spitting on the place, and rubbing it behind the left ear. This must be performed by the patient himself; if he names it to any one the charm will be broken.

Snake-bites are cured by killing a fowl and placing the warm entrails on the poisoned part.

Warts are cured by the sign of the cross and the repetition of the *Gloria Patri*. This can only be done by one who has the gift of charming.

Shingles are cured by the use of ointment made of grease and dust from a church bell. See **Dodment**. (1880.)

Sore eyes are cured with rain water caught on Ascension Day. (1878.)

The *dernier ressort* of the superstitious is 'Gool Friday bread.' This consists of a small piece of dough placed in the oven on Good Friday morning, and baked until perfectly hard throughout. It is then hung up to the roof, and when all other remedies fail, a little of it, grated, is given to the patient. If this does not cure him, *he is to die*, and all further efforts may be abandoned.¹

Fate is firmly believed in. A woman whose child was burnt for the second time, through sheer carelessness, brought it to a doctor, who blamed her for not taking more precaution. She sobbed out, 'That 'öodna be o' no sart o' use, ahl thě naayghbours says 'e's *barn to be burnt!*' (1878.)

A disease in the hoof of cattle, called 'the foul,' is cured by cutting a sod on which the foot has pressed, and hanging it up on a blackthorn bush. As it dries the foot will heal. (1878.)

Lameness in a horse caused by a nail is cured by thrusting the nail into a piece of bacon. As it rusts the wound will heal. (1879.)

SUPERSTITIONS.

It is bad luck to take a few of the first spring flowers into a house where the owners keep poultry. It insures a bad year for the 'gulls.'

Picking flowers before they are full-blown causes a 'pouk' (sty) in the eye.

It is bad luck to cut a baby's nails before it is twelve months old, as it will then grow up 'light-fingered.' If necessary the nails are bitten. (1878.)

It is also bad luck to let a child see its face in the glass till it is a year old.

¹ Some persons use it as a cure for diarrhœa only.

It is unlucky to have any wet ashes in the house in the interval between Christmas Eve and Twelfth Day ; it is also bad luck to bring in 'strange fire,' i. e. lights or fuel from another house, in that period. (1878.)

It is unlucky to have the New Year 'let in' by a woman or girl.

It is unlucky to have no mistletoe hanging in the house. The fresh bunch is hung on New Year's Day ; a small piece of last year's bunch is always kept until then.

It is unlucky to plant the first potato or any garden crops until Good Friday.

It is unlucky if the tail of the first lamb you see is towards you.

It is unlucky to remove the dead body of an animal that dies in the field.

It is unlucky to have the poker and tongs on the same side of the fireplace : the inmates of the room will quarrel.

It is bad for the same reason to sit in a room with three candles burning.

It is unlucky to call a child before baptism by the name you mean to give it. (1877.)

It is unlucky to have the bishop's left hand on your head at confirmation. (1878.)

It is unlucky for a wedding party to be in church while the clock is striking.

It is unlucky to dream of being in church. (1879.)

It is unlucky to dream of silver or copper ; to dream of gold is lucky. (1879.)

It is unlucky to dream of 'setting flowers in the earth' in company with another person. You will be certain to hear ill news of them the next day. (1878.)

CHARMS AGAINST ILL-LUCK, ETC.

If in walking under a ladder you *spit*, the luck will be turned.

If two persons wash their hands at the same time in one bowl, they must spit in the water, or a quarrel will arise between them.

To avert the ill-luck of knives being crossed on the table, the lower one should be gently withdrawn, while the words 'Blessed are the peacemakers' are said.

To make bees swarm, kill a toad.

A spider enclosed in a nutshell, and worn in a bag hung round the neck, is a charm against toothache.

SIGNS AND CUSTOMS.

If the first snow hangs in the trees, it is a sign that the coming year will be a good one for fruit.

If the sun shines on Candlemas Day sufficiently warm for the cat to bask in it, it is a sign that there will be more hard weather. (1879.)

If the wind is in the west at 12 p.m. on Candlemas Day, it will be a good year for fruit.

A white bird is a sign of death.

'Telling the bees' of a death in the family is thus performed. Rap three times on the hive with the front door key, and whisper your loss, say of a brother, in these words :

'Bees, bees, my brother is dead.
Will you stay and work for me?'

'Crying the mare' was performed not many years since in much the same manner as is described by Hartshorne in *Salopia Antiqua*.

On New Year's Day the children go from house to house, chanting :

'I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year,
A pocket full of money and a cellar full of beer,
And a good fat pig to serve you all the year ;
Please to give me a New Year's gift.'

Veal is always eaten on Mid-lent—Mothering Sunday.

On May-day branches of silver birch hung with cowslip balls are fastened to the side of the doorways; over the door hang garlands of evergreen, tinsel, and paper flowers.

On first hearing the cuckoo the purse should be turned in the pocket, to insure its having money in it all the year round.

Whatever you are doing when you first hear the cuckoo will be your chief occupation during the next twelve months.

These examples will suffice to show how old-fashioned ways, as well as old-fashioned words, have survived in this district.

It only remains to offer my sincere thanks to those friends who have sent me contributions, or otherwise assisted me. These are the Revds. Sir F. A. G. Ouseley, Archdeacon Lea, C. Wordsworth, C. Allen, T. Ayscough Smith, R. Burton, and W. Rayson; E. V. Wheeler, W. Claxton, and G. W. Grosvenor, Esqs. Valuable contributions were received from the late John Barber, Esq., of The Jewkes, Tenbury; and the late Joseph Jones, Esq., of Abberley Hall.

I have also to thank the Honorary Secretary of the E. D. S., T. Hallam, Esq., and Prof. Skeat, for advice and help in the work of compilation.

E. L. CHAMBERLAIN.

Hagley, Sept. 1882.

PRONUNCIATION.

1. The short **A** between two consonants, as in *man* and *plank*, is in some cases pronounced like the *o* in *mop*,

as { *mon, gother, cotch, rot.*
for { *man, gather, catch, rat.*

2. The long **A**, as in *male*, is sometimes sounded like the Italian *ai*, sometimes becomes dissyllabic—*ai-u*. These sounds are written respectively (1) *aay* and (2) *aiü* throughout the Glossary,

(1) as { *aay'l, taay'l, plaay't.*
for { *ale, tale, plate.*

(2) and { *plaiüs, maiüd, taiük.*
for { *place, made, take.*

3. **A** as a separate unaccented syllable has the sound of *u* in *ugh*.

4. **A** before a soft *ng* has the sound written *aay*,

as { *raaynge, straaynge, daaynger, maaynger.*
for { *range, strange, danger, manger.*

5. **Ai** and **Ay** have usually the sound written *aay* as above, but occasionally in words of more than one syllable this is contracted, so as to resemble the *y* in *rhyme*,

as { *M'y-daay, r'yny.*
for { *May-day, rainy.*

In the names of the days of the week *ay* is shortened, as *Sundy*, *Mondy*, &c.

6. **Au** becomes (1) *ah*, or (2) else has the sound (rather prolonged) of *A* in *Ann*,

as { *dah*ter, *dah*nt, *an*nt.
for { daughter, daunt, aunt.

(3). **Au** in *audacious* becomes *ow*.

7. **D** (1) following *l* at the close of a word is often turned into *t*,

as { *holl*t, *toll*t.
for { hold, told.

This is generally done in speaking emphatically; (2) when less stress is laid on them these words would be—

'owd, *towd*.

8. **D** is added at the end of some monosyllables, after *n*,

as { *shewnd*, *gownd*.
for { shewn, gown.

9. **E** short, as in *net*, becomes *a* in some cases after *y*,

as { *yas*, *yally*.
for { yes, yellow.

10. **E** in *pretty* is pronounced as *e* and not *i*, as in Standard English.

11. **E** in *me*, when unemphatic, has the sound of *u* in *ugh*; this is written *mě* throughout the Glossary.

12. **Ea** has (1) the sound of *a* long or *ay*,

as { *pays*, *tay*, *banes*, *stale*.
for { peas, tea, beans, steale.

Ea (2) in the class of words *bear*, *wear*, &c., has the sound of *ah* = *bahr*, *wahr*.

13. **Ee** in some monosyllables becomes *i* short,

as { *wik*, *fit*, *ship*.
for { week, feet, sheep.

14. **Ere** is pronounced *ahr*, in such words as *where*, *there*, which become *w'ahr*, *thahr*.

15. **Ey**, as in *grey*, becomes *aay*,

as { *thaay*, *praay*, *survaayor*.
for { they, prey, surveyor.

16. **H** at the beginning of syllables is always dropped. It is substituted for *w* before *o* or *oo* by emphatic speakers,

as { *hood*, *hool*, *hööman*.
for { *wood*, *wool*, *woman*.

17. **I** as a separate unaccented syllable, between consonants, is turned into *a* or *u*,

as { *charaty*, *merrully*.
for { *charity*, *merrily*.

18. **I** in a few accented syllables becomes *e* short,

as { *set*, *sperrit*, *sennew*.
for { *sit*, *spirit*, *sinew*.

19. **Io** in *violent*, *violet*, &c., is transposed, becoming a diphthong —*voylent*, *voylet*.

20. **L** is mute after *o* long, or *ow*, which then take the sound of *ow* in *cow*, written *aow* in the Glossary,

as { *caowd*, *taowd*, *maowd*.
for { *cold*, *told*, *mould*.

21. **N** becomes *m* (1) before *b* and *p*,

as { *Tembury*,¹ *tempence*.
for { *Tenbury*, *tenpence*.

(2) in turnip = *turmit*.

22. **Ng** in present participles, verbal nouns, and some other words, has the sound of the nasal *n* only,

as { *walkin'*, *runnin'*, *'untin'*, *nothin'*.
for { *walking*, *running*, *hunting*, *nothing*.

23. **N** is also substituted of *ng* in *length* and *strength* = *lenth*, *strenth*.

24. **O** short before *r* becomes *a* short,

as { *carn*, *arder*, *marnin'*.
for { *corn*, *order*, *morning*.

¹ It is remarkable, however, that *Tembury* accidentally comes nearer to the original form of the name, since *Tenbury* is *Teme-bury*, the town on the *Teme*.

25. **O** long in words or syllables with a silent *e* following, or in open syllables, becomes diphthongal,

as { *stoïn, loïnsome, poïny.*
for { *stone, lonesome, pony.*

26. **Oa** (1) becomes diphthongal,

as { *coät, roäd, foäl.*
for { *coat, road, foal.*

(2) in *oats* = *wuts*.

(3) becomes *ũ* in a final unaccented syllable, as *petticũt* for *petticoat*.

27. **Oi** has the sound of *i* only,

as { *p'int, f'ine, b'ile.*
for { *point, join, boil.*

28. **Oo** becomes *ũ* before a final *k* or *t*,

as { *fũt, shũck, brũck.*
for { *foot, shook, brook.*

29. **Ough** is almost always pronounced as in *plough*, and is written *aow* in the Glossary,

as { *enaow, thraow, thaow, thaowt.*
for { *enough, through, though, thought.*

N.B. A person who spoke the dialect broadly would infallibly say, 'I *baowt* this 'ere *coät*,' yet if he wished to inform you that it was ready made, he would most likely add, 'Tis a *boughten* 'un.'

30. **Ow** (1) in the class *cow, down, town, &c.* has the same sound as in Standard English.

(2) In the class *blow, grow, snow*, it is pronounced as a diphthong. Such words are written *aow* in the Glossary.

(3) In a final unaccented syllable *ow* is pronounced *ũ*,

as { *barrũ, burrũ, to-morrũ.*
for { *barrow, burrow, to-morrow.*

31. **R** is transposed in *children*, and *hundred* = *childern, 'underd*.

32. **S** is transposed in *ask* = *aks*.

33. **T** is converted into *ch* before a final *ous*, *uous*, or *ual*,

as { *covechous*, *spirichuous*, *spirichual*.
for { *covetous*, *spirituous*, *spiritual*.

34. **Th** becomes *t* in *fifth* and *sixth* = *fift*, *sixt*.

35. **Un** becomes *on* at the beginning of a word,

as { *onlucky*, *ontidy*.
for { *unlucky*, *untidy*.

36. **U** in *put* is sounded as in *but*.

37. **W** is omitted at the beginning of some words before *o*, *oo*, or *ou*, when these letters are pronounced *ö*,
as { 'Ööster, ööd, ööd.
for { Worcester, wood, would.

38. **Wh** has the sound of *w* only,

as { *w'en*, *w'ahr*, *w'at*.
for { when, where, what.

The pronunciation of the following words is to be noted :—

Breadth,	<i>pronounced</i>	Brenth.
Dead,	„	Dyud.
Death,	„	Dyuth.
Gate,	„	Yat and gaiüt.
Gone.	„	Gon.
Head,	„	Yud.
Home,	„	Oam, oaüm, woaüm, and wum.
Master,	„	Maäster.
Water,	„	Watter.

The numbers of the paragraphs agree with those of the glossic equivalents.

GLOSSIC EQUIVALENTS

TO THE SOUNDS REFERRED TO OR CONTAINED IN THE
FOREGOING CHAPTER ON PRONUNCIATION,

BY THOMAS HALLAM.

N.B. The numbers 1, 2, 3, &c. agree with those of the respective paragraphs in the chapter. The Glossic equivalents are given in *square brackets*.

1. = [o] generally : a few words have the vowel of medial length = [:o·] or [:au·], as *man*, *can*, *v.*, &c. See Note I.

2. (1) = [:aa·y].

(2) = [:ə·u'] or [:ai·u']. In this class of words containing *a* long with *e* final, there is considerable diversity of pronunciation. See Note II.

3. = [u'].

4. = [:aa·y].

5. (1) = [:aa·y]. Slow speakers might sometimes use [aa·y].

(2) The sound intended by the author is [ahy] or [:ah·y]:
May-day = [Mahy·d:aa·y]; and *rainy* = [rahyni'].

6. (1) = [aa·]. (2) = [a'·]. (3) = [uw] or [uuw].

7. (1) = [t]. (2) = [:ao·wd] and [t:ao:wd].

8. = [d].

9. = [aa].

10. = [ae].

11. = [u'].

12. (1) = [ai·]. (2) = [:aa·] or [aa·].

13. (1) = [ee·]. (2) = [i].

14. = [:aa·r'] or [aa·r'].

15. = [aa'y].
17. = [u'] generally.
18. = [æ].
19. = ʔ[oy] or [ahy].
20. = [ao'w].
21. = [m].
22 and 23. = [n].
24. = [aa'] generally.
25. = [ao'w].
26. (1) = [ao'w]. (2) = [wuts]. (3) = [u'].
27. = [u'y] or [uy].
28. = [u].
29. = [ao'w].
30. (1) = [u'w] or [uw]. (2) = [ao'w]. (3) = [u'].
31. = [chil'du'r'n], [un'du'r'd].
34. = [t].
35. = [on].
36. = [u].
37. o, oo and ou = [øø] or [oo].
38. = [w].

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON PRONUNCIATION.

BY T. HALLAM.

It is perhaps necessary to note that the *vowels, diphthongs, and vowel diagraphs* treated of in these notes are those in accented syllables.

The examples are all selected from words actually heard and recorded by the writer during visits to West Worcestershire, in the years 1880, 1881, and 1882.

I. **A** in closed syllables :—

- 1 = [aa] in the largest section of these words, as and *emph.*,
bad, glad, hand, wagon, &c.
- 2 = [aa'] in some cases, as cart, chance, glass, grass, hark,
man, &c.
- 3 = [a''] in a few words,—heard the following: Ann, man,
married, that.
- 4 = [ah'] before *r*, by old people at Bewdley and Tenbury—
in cart, farthing, garden, hard, jar, married, parsnips, &c.
- 5 = [o] and [o'] or [au']; see paragraph 1, *supra*.

II. **A—e**, as in gate, male, plate, &c. In this class of words there is very considerable variety in the pronunciation of *a*. The prevailing forms, however, seem to be [ai'] and [e'u'].

I give below the pronunciation of most of the words in this class which were heard and recorded at various places in West Worcestershire. After each word the initials of the places are given at which it was recorded, viz. :—

A = Abberley; B = Bewdley; D = Droitwich; E = Eldersfield; K = Kidderminster; S = Saleway (2 miles S. of Droitwich); T = Tenbury; and W = Worcester.

Whenever any word was recorded more than once for any place or places, the number of times is given in parentheses after the respective initials.

Sounds.

[aiː] in: gate [gyaiːt] T (2); lame B (2) T; lane E; made S; make B; name AB (2) STW (3); rate B; same BD; take AB (2) STW; toothache T.

[ɛːuː] in: ale T; lame A (2) ET; name K; place DT (2); plate T; same T; take E; tale T.

[aiːuː] in: lame ST; name T.

[aiy] in: named W.

[eː] in: bake T; take T.

[ɛː] in: age D; gate [gyɛːt] W.

[ɛːuː] in: cake T; gate [gɛːuːt] T.

Also: *gate* = [gyeyt] W (2), [gɛːtt] E, [gyɛːt] T, [gyaett] K, and [gyuut] B: and: *ale* = [yaeːl] T.

Several other forms were given by a woman 82 years of age (1882), a native of Tenbury; but these are probably individualities. They are, at any rate, curious:

[aiä, aiää, iä, i:aː, iää, i:aa, i:ae, ɪ'aa, ɪ':ae].

See par. 2, *supra*.

III. Cl- = [kl] not [tl], in clear, Clee Hills, clock, &c.

IV. E. = [ae] in closed syllables generally—as eggs, kettle, tell, very, wench, &c.

V. E in be, me, we, when under stress = [ee] or [ɛː].

VI. Ea.—In this diagram there is great diversity of pronunciation.

VII. Ee.—1 = [ee] or [ɛː] generally—as in green, see, thee, three, trees.

2 = [i] in a few words. See par. 14, *supra*.

VIII. Gl- = [gl] not [dl], as in glass, &c.

IX. **I** in closed syllables :—

1 = [i], as in *big, bring, finger, in, it, little, six, this, &c.*

2 = [iː] in some cases, as *live*.

X. **I** long or diphthongal :—

1 = [uɪ] or [ɪu] generally—as in *child, likely, mind, night, right, side, writes, &c.*

2 = [uɪu] or [ɪuɪ], occasional variants. N.B. There may sometimes occur forms intermediate between Nos. 1 and 2.

XI. **O** in closed syllables :—

1 = [ɒ] in the large class of words—as *clock, drop, got, not, on, Tom, yonder, &c.*

2 = [ʊ] in the class having this sound in Standard English—as *another, a-comin', money, other, &c.* : the variant [uu] is sometimes used.

3 = [ɔː] in *son* ; [ɔːu] may occur.

XII. **Oo**.—1 = [oo] and [ɔː] generally—as in *afternoon, good, rooks, school, soon, wood* = [ɔːd], &c.

2 = [oo] in *look, toothache*.

XIII. **Ou** in the class—*about, account, house, out, &c.*, is generally = [uw] ; and at times = [uɪw] : moreover, the first element of these diphthongs is sometimes of medial quantity.

XIV. **R** medial and final is often reverted = [ɾ].

XV. **U** short in closed syllables :—

1 = [ʊ] generally—as in *but, jump, mutton, run, summer, up, &c.*

2. The variant [uu] occasionally occurs. N.B. In some cases the sound may be intermediate between these.

XVI. **U** long or diphthongal is generally pronounced as in Standard English.

VERBS.

TO BE.

Present.

I be, <i>or</i> bin.	Us be, <i>or</i> bin.
Thee bist.	You be.
'E <i>or</i> 'er be, <i>or</i> 'e's.	Thaay be, <i>or</i> bin.

Past.

I wuz, <i>or</i> were.	Us wuz, <i>or</i> were.
Thee wust.	You wuz.
'E were.	Thaay wuz.

Negative (present).

I binna.	Us binna.
Thee bistna.	You binna.
'E binna.	Thaay binna.

Negative (past).

I wasna, wuzna, <i>or</i> wornt.	Us wasna, wuzna, <i>or</i> worna.
Thee wasna, wuzna, <i>or</i> wornt.	You wasna, wuzna, <i>or</i> worna.
'E wasna, wuzna, <i>or</i> worna.	Thaay wasna, wuzna, worna, <i>or</i> worn't.

Interrog. and Neg. (present).

Binna I?	Binna, <i>or</i> baint us?
Bistna thee?	Binna yŭ?
Binna 'e, <i>or</i> baint 'e?	Binna thaay?

Interrog. and Neg. (past).

Wasna I?	Wasna, <i>or</i> werena us?
Werena thee?	Wasna yŭ?
Wasna 'e, <i>or</i> werena 'e?	Wasna thaay?

TO HAVE.

Present.

I 'ave, or 'a.	Us 'as, or 'äve.
Thee 'st, or thee 'ast.	You 'äve, or 'a.
'E, 'a, or 'er 'as.	Thaay 'as.

Past.

I 'äd.	Us 'ad.
Thee 'ädst.	You 'ad.
'E 'äd.	Thaay 'ad.

Negative (present).

I 'anna, or 'avna.	Us 'anna, or 'avna.
Thee 'asna.	Yer 'anna, or 'avna.
'E 'anna, or 'asna.	Thaay 'anna, or 'asna.

Negative (past).

I 'adna	Us 'adna, or adn't.
Thee 'adstna.	You 'adna, or 'adn't.
'E 'adna.	Thaay 'adna, or 'adn't.

Interrog. and Neg. (present).

'Anna I?	'An't us?
'Astna thee?	'Anna yŭ?
'An't 'e?	'Anna thaay!

Interrog. and Neg. (past).

Adna I?	'Adna, or 'adn't us?
'Adna, or 'adstna thee?	'Adstna yŭ?
'Adna 'e?	'Adna thaay?

AUXILIARIES.

SHALL.

I shall.	Us shall.
Thee shall, or sholt.	You shall.
'E shall.	Thaay shall.
I shud, or shööd.	Us shud.
Thee shudst, &c.	You shud.
'E shud.	Thaay shud.

*Negative.*I shanna, *or* shollna.Us shanna, *or* shollna.Thee shanna, *or* shollna.You shanna, *or* shollna.'E shanna, *or* shollna.Thaay shanna, *or* shollna.I shudna, *or* shöðdna.

Us shudna.

Thee shudna, *or* shudstna.

You shudna.

'E shudna.

Thaay shudna.

*Interrog. and Neg.*Shanna I, *or* sholna I? &c.Shanna, *or* sholna us? &c.

Shoodna I?

Shoodna us? &c.

Shoodstna thee? &c.

WILL.

I 'ööl.

Us 'ööl.

Thee 'ööl, *or* öölst.

You 'ööl.

E 'ool.

Thaay 'ööl.

I 'ööd.

Us 'ööd.

Thee 'ööd, *or* 'öödst.

You 'ööd.

'E 'ööd.

Thaay 'ööd.

*Negative.*I 'öölna, *or* wunt.Us 'öölna, *or* wunna.Thee 'öölna, *or* 'öölstna, *or* wunna.You 'öölna, *or* wunna.E 'öölna, *or* wunna.Thaay 'öölna, *or* wunna.

I 'öödna, &c.

Us 'öödna, &c.

Interrog. and Neg.'Öölna I, *or* wunt I? &c.'Öölna, *or* wunt us, &c.

'Öödna I? &c.

'Öödna us?

CAN.

I con, &c.

Us con, &c.

I cud, &c.

Us cud, *or* cööd, &c.

Negative.

I conna, &c.	Us conna, &c.
I cöödna, &c.	Us cöödna, &c.

Interrog. and Neg.

Conna I?	Conna us? &c.
Cöödna I? &c.	Cöödna us? &c.

MUST.

I mun, <i>or</i> möön.	Us mun, <i>or</i> möön.
Thee mun, <i>or</i> munst.	You mun, <i>or</i> möön.
'E mun, <i>or</i> möön.	Thaay mun, <i>or</i> möön.

Neg.

I munna, <i>or</i> mus'na.	Us munna, <i>or</i> mus'na.
Thee munna, <i>or</i> munnut, <i>or</i> mus'na.	You munna, <i>or</i> mus'na.
'E munna, <i>or</i> mus'na.	Thaay munna, <i>or</i> mus'na.

Interrog. and Neg.

Munna I, <i>or</i> mus'na I? &c.	Munna us, <i>or</i> mus'na us? &c.
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WEST WORCESTERSHIRE GLOSSARY.

A, *v.* to have, present and imperative moods. 'Er a gon' awaay.
She has gone away. 'A done, ðöl ee!' *Have done, will you!*

A, *pron.* he; she; it. 'W'ahr bin a?' 'Thar a comes,' may mean either *Where is he, she, or it?* &c.

A, *prep.* at; in. 'E were a chu'ch o' Sund'y.' 'Er's a bed mighty bad, wi' a paay'n a top o' 'er yud.' In all these cases *a* has the sound of *u* in *but* (standard English).

Abear, *v.* to tolerate; to endure. 'I canna abar to see 'un.' 'E's 'ad the tüthache that desprit till 'e couldn't scahrcely abar it.'

Abide, *v.* to suffer; to endure. 'Mother, 'er never could abide that thahr mon.'

Above-a-bit, *adverbial phrase*, extremely. 'These 'ere bad times werrits me above-a-bit, thaay do; I dunno w'at to do, no more than the dyud' (dead).

Accord, *v.* to agree. Pronounced *accard*. 'Im an' 'er can't accard together no waay.' Chaucer, *Cant. Tales*, Prologue, 832:

'And I it recorde
If even-song and morwe-song *accorde*.'

Accumulate, *v.* to unite for a common purpose. Pronounced *accù-mullate*. 'Us accùmullated to go to 'Ööster together o' Saturd'y.'

Ackern, *n.* acorn. 'As sound as an *ackern*' is a local proverb, applied to everything from a horse to a nut.

Ackerspire, *v.* Applied to potatoes, &c. which begin to sprout while still in the ground.

Adlands, *n.* the strip of ground left at the end of a field for the plough to turn on. Corruption of *headlands*.

Afore, *prep.* before. 'Come an' see we afore yũ goes awaay.' Sometimes pronounced *afaur*.

Agate, *prep.* set going; on the way; begun. 'Owd Jem's agate now uv 'is taay'ls; thahr 'll be no stoppin' un.' 'Thahr's a dill o' fevers agate this 'ot weather.'—*Cotgrave* makes use of *agate*. s. v. *brimbaler* and *brouëter*.

Ah-thern, *n.* hawthorn.

Aigle, *n.* icicle. 'See ahl them *aigles* 'angin' to the thack; 'tis mighty teart this marnin'.'

Aild, *v.* to ail. 'This casselty weather dunna suit the owd folks; grandad's but *aildin*' like.'

Aim, *v.* to attempt; to endeavour. 'Er *aimed* to pick it up, but 'twere too 'eavy fur 'er to 'eft it.'

Ait, *v.* to throw. 'The lad *aited* a stoün, an' 'it the 'arse o' the yud.'

All-about, upside-down; confused. 'To think as the missis should come to see me, an' my 'ouse *ahl-about* like this!'

All-about-it, the whole matter. 'Thee canna go to-daay; thee mun stop at oaüm, an' that's *ahl-about-it*.'

All-as-is, all that remains. 'The pot's purty nigh emp, but I'll give 'ee *ahl-as-is*.'

All-as-one, all the same. 'Thee can go, ar Bill; 'tis *ahl-as-one*.'

Anant, *prep.* near. 'Put down them faggits *anant* the door.'

Anenst, *prep.* opposite. 'Thaay lives right *anenst* we.'

Anti-tump, *n.* ant-hill.

Anunst, *prep.* same as **Anant**. (Kidderminster.)

Apern, or **Appern**, *n.* apron. See Wedgwood. 'Er puck up the chats, an' carr'd 'em off in 'er *appern*.'

Archert, *n.* orchard.

Arrand, or **Arrant**, *n.* errand. 'Our Bill's a good li'le chap ta run uv a *arrand*, 'e dunna laowse (lose) much time o' the waay.' Also applied to marketings, purchases, &c. '*Fetching an arrand*' is always the expression used. 'The folks next door be goin' to market, an' thaay be a-goin' to fetch my *arrants* far më.'

Asgill, *n.* a newt. 'The gentlefolks is ac'tully that ignerunt, thaay thinks as *asgills* canna do no 'arm!' Cf. *ask* in Halliwell.

Aslat. Pronounced *az-lat*, *n.* (1) the liver, lungs, &c. of a pig.

(2) a dish composed of these parts, wrapped in the caul, and baked with sage and onions. See Pegge's *Kenticisms*. s. v. *Harcelet*.

Athirt, *prep.* athwart. See Wedgwood under *Thwart*. *Boatman*. 'Bring 'er *athirt* the river, Bill.'

Aurrust, *n.* harvest. 'I doubts us 'ull 'ave a dreadful bad *aurrust* this year.'

Ause, *v.* to try; to attempt. See **Oss**. 'I röüd this 'ere poüny ahl the waay to Bewdley, an' 'e never wunst *aused* to shy.'

Avoirdupois, *v.* to think over; to consider, weigh mentally. Fr. *avoirdupois*. Pronounced *avverdepoy*. 'Father an' me, we've *avver-depoyed* it over, an' us thinks as our 'Liza 'ad best go to service.'

Avoirdupois, *adj.* Used by carpenters to signify correct, straight, well-balanced.

Backen, *v.* to keep back, or retard. 'This cowl weather 'ull *backen* the crops.' 'I doubt thaay 're too forrat; 't'ull do em no 'arm to be *backened* a bit.'

Badger, (1) *n.* a dealer in grain, poultry, fruit, butter, &c., who attends different markets to buy up these commodities.

(2) *v.* to torment; to worry. This use probably comes from the sharp practice and hard dealings of the traders mentioned above. 'That owd Pa-tige (Page) is a 'ard un to live under. If you're ever so little be'yind with the rent 'e'll *badger* you as if it wuz ever so!'

Bannuts, *n.* walnuts. *Parish clerk.* 'W'at did I think o' the sarmin? Sarmints is ahl like *bannuts*; d'reckly yū opens 'um, yū knaows w'ats in 'um.'

Barfüt, *n.* *Helleborus foetidus*, Bear's-foot. The leaves are baked in the oven and used as a remedy for worms. The long centre leaflet is removed, as it is considered poisonous.

Bass, or **Boss**, of the hand, *n.* the palm or hollow of the hand. See Wedgwood. 'E's cut 'isself right across the *bass* o' the 'and with a *rip-puk*,' or *rippook* (reaping-hook).

Bat, *v.* to blink the eyes. 'Now, Lizzie, thahr yū be a *battin*' uv your eyes agen! 'Ow many times 'ave I tow'd yū not to *bat* 'em so? You'll get by 'n' bye as you canna 'elp it, an' folks 'ull think as you're silly.'

Bather, pronounced *Bāth-er*. *v.* (1) to scratch as fowls do; (2) to scrape together; (3) to struggle. (1) 'Them chickens o' Tyler's be allus a *batherin*' in our garden'. (2) 'That owd Shukey, er's a covet-chous owd piece! 'Er's a stockin' full a money as 'er's *bathered* up some waay.' (3) 'My son's bin mighty bad: I thowt I sh'ud 'a lost 'im sure-liē, but 'e's *bathered* thraow it now.'

Bathy, pronounced *Bai-thy*, *adj.* damp; moist. 'That graay'n 'ull be reg'lar sp'ilt in the loft thahr, it's as *bathy* as can be.'

Beaze, *v.* to dry in the sun. 'Them 'ops gets reg'lur *beazed* this 'ot weather.'

Beazy, *adj.* 'Them trees o' yourn wants waterin'; this winder's so sunny, thaay be quite *beazy*.'

Behappen, *adv.* perhaps. 'If yū canna staay now, *behappen* you'll step in i' the marnin'?'

Being as, seeing that. 'I did want to spik to the maister to ast if 'e cōdn't rise Ben a bit; but *bein*' as 'e were so pūt about, I didna like to do it to-daay.'

Bellock, *v.* to roar.

Bellyful, *n.* a sufficient quantity. 'Didna I see yū comin' out o' the Methody's a Sund'y, Mrs. Accon?' (Acton). 'Aye, so yū did; 'taint as I 'olds with the Methodys, thaay be so sly to my thinkin'; but I likes to go to the chapel upon times, 'cause the sarmints is that cuttin'. Many's the time I've sot in that chapel an' cried my *bellyful*.'

Shakspeare, *King Lear*, Act III. sc. ii.:

'Rumble thy bellyful! Spit fire, spout rain.'

Tusser's *Five Hundred Pointes of Good Husbandrie*, sec. 46, l. 27:

'No spoone meat, no bellyfull, labourers thinke.'

Bine, *n.* the stem of the hop-plant.

Biver, *v.* to quiver. 'When 'er sid 'er father go, 'er poor little mouth was a *biverin'*, but 'er managed to kip 'er tears back.'

Black-bat, *n.* black beetle.

Bleeding-heart, *n.* *Dielytra spectabilis*; also called 'Lift-up-your-head-and-I'll-kiss-you.'

Blob-mouthed, *adj.* loud; talkative.

Bloody butcher, *n.* *Orchis mascula*, Early Purple Orchis.

Blow, *n.* blossom. Pronounced *blaow*. 'That ah-dhern (hawthorn) tree anenst the owd barn is in *blaow* most beautiful.' 'Ave yū sid the *blaow* uv this pink? 'Tis amost as big as a rose.'

Blue-tail, *n.* the fieldfare.

Bolt, or **Boltin**, of **straw**, &c., a bundle of from 12 to 14 lbs.

Boosey, *n.* part of a cow-shed railed off for keeping hay, &c.

Boosey-pasture, *n.* pasture which lies close to a cattle-shed.

Bossack, *n.* footstool. See Wedgwood under *Boss*.

Bossen, *v.* to burst. 'I never see such a greedy bist as that big mastie dog a the gaffer's. 'E got 'owd uv a dyud ship i' the big piece yander, an' 'e stuffed 'isself till I thowt 'e'd a *bossen*.' Sometimes to go *bossen* is used. 'Dunna pug that owd strap so tight, ar 'e'll go *bossen*.'

Boss-eyed, *adj.* squinting.

Bosted, *p. p.* burst. 'That thahr culvert 'as *bosted* up.'

Bough-house, *n.* house opened at fair-time only, for the sale of liquor. (Persnore.) Suppressed 1863.

Boughten, *adj.* ready-made. 'I allus bakes at 'oaüm, I canna abide *boughten* bread.'

Bout, *n.* in ploughing, once up and down the field.

Bow-bells, *n.* *Anemone nemorosa*, Wood Anemone, wind-flower.

Bozzard, *n.* a ghost.

Brat, *n.* pinafore. 'Püt on the child's *brat* afore yu feeds 'im.'

Bree, *n.* a large fly resembling a bee. The gadfly is sometimes so called.

Brevit, *v.* to hunt about; to pry inquisitively. 'W'ahr 'ave yū püt my prahr-buk to, Mairy? I've *brevitted* thraow ahl them drahrs I canna find 'im.' 'E'l git naowt from we, 'tis uv no use far 'im to come *brevittin'* about our plai-us.'

Brummock, *n.* a hook used in hedging (broomhook).

Buff, or Buft, v. to stammer. Fr. *buffer*. 'Thaay've tuk a dill o' paay'ns wi' my Sam at the school, an' amost cured 'im o' *buftin'*, so bad as 'e did when 'e were a little 'un.'

Burrü, n. a sheltered place. Corruption of *burrow*. 'The wind is pretty teart to-daay, but if yü kips in the *burrü* t'ull do yü more good to go out in the air a bit than stivin' by the fire ahl the w'ild.'

Bushel-up. Good hops are said by the pickers to *bushel-up* well, i. e. they have some degree of consistency which makes them fill up the measurer's basket in a manner favourable to the pickers.

Bussack, n. a severe cough; *v.* to cough. Probably a corruption of *houssack*.

Bussock, n. a donkey.

Butty, n. a work-fellow, or companion. 'Have you seen Mary Parker lately, Mrs. Yapp?' 'Aye, I sis 'er most wiks; 'er's my *butty*-woman when I washes at the parson's.' 'Im an' 'is *butties* wuz at thar tay, an' a man come to the dore, an' he says, "Wich o' your names is Robison?"'

By-tack, n. a farm taken by a tenant who resides on another.

Cad-bait, n. the larva of the stone-fly.

Caddle, v. to quarrel. 'Ark to them childern *caddlin'* over their bits uv t'ys.'

Cade, n. a spoilt child; a pet lamb. 'That 'öðman 'ull reg'lur ruinate the b'y; 'e's such a little *cade* as never wuz.'

Cadge, v. to carry tales. 'That Ben Collier's a spiteful 'un; 'e's allus a *cadgin'* about to the gentlefolks, an' settin' um agin some on us.'

Cadger, n. a carrier. See Wedgwood, and Ray, *N. C. Glossary*. 'I'll send the baskit by the *cadger* a Saturd'y.'

Caff, or Kerf, n. a hoe: bills of sale, 1880. See *Kerf*.

Caff, or Kerf, v. to hoe. Hops are *caffed*, potatoes *kerfed*.

Cagmag, (1) n. offal; rubbish.

(2) *v.* to quarrel. 'The missis says to me, "W'at's that n'ise?" says she. "Oh," says I, "it's on'y them two owd critters upsta'rs a *cagmaggin'* like thaay allus be."

Calls, to cattle, &c. To cows: 'Coop! coop!' or 'Aw! aw!' To dogs: 'Pishti! pishti!' (A strange dog is always spoken to as 'Pishti,' as if this were a proper name.) To horses: 'Aw!' i. e. turn towards driver. 'Oot!' i. e. turn from driver. 'Come 'ere!' (in ploughing) to first horse to turn towards driver. 'Gee woa!' (in ploughing) to first horse to turn from driver. To pigs: 'Dacky! dacky!' 'Tantassa, tantassa pig, tow a row, a row!' To poultry: 'Chook! chook!' 'Come Biddy! come Biddy!'

Cambottle, n. the Long-tailed Tit. In Shropshire this bird is a *Can-bottle*. The Worcestershire form is an example of the local tendency to turn *n* into *m* before *b* or *p*.

Cant, *v.* to tell tales; to slander. See Wedgwood.

Carlock, *n.* *Sinapis arvensis*, Charlock. *Prompt. Parv.*

Casseltly, *adj.* uncertain: of the weather. 'Thahr's no tellin' w'at to be at in such *casseltly* weather.'

Cast, *n.* to give up; to reject. 'If I gits aowl't (hold) uv a sart o' taters as dunna suit my gardin, as doesna come *kind* yū knaows, I *casts* 'um perty soon.' See Halliwell, *Cast*, 33.

Tusser's *Husbandrie*, sec. 33, l. 52:

'Land past the best

Cast up to rest.'

Catahrandtail, *n.* the Redstart.

Cattering, *n.* going begging on St. Catharine's Day.

Chastise, *v.* to accuse. 'Us *chastised* 'im uv 'avin' done it, an' 'e couldn't deny of it.'

Chats, *n.* chips of wood. See Wedgwood.

Chatter, *v.* to scold; to find fault with. 'E didna ought to a sahced (sauces) the ma-üster; I *chattered* 'un well far it.'

Chaum, *n.* a crack in a floor or wall.

Cheat, *n.* the Grasshopper Warbler.

Cheeses, *n.* *Malva sylvestris*, Common Mallow.

Chewer, *n.* a narrow footpath.

Chin-cough, *n.* whooping-cough. Corrupted from *chink-cough*. See Wedgwood.

Chitterlings, *n.* entrails of animals, usually pigs. *Prompt. Parv.*

Chores, *n.* jobs, or work done by a charwoman. 'When thee'st done up ahl the *chores* thee canst go out if thee's a mind, but not afore.'

The Christmas = Christmas-time. 'I dunna think none o' the childern 'ull be over afore the winter, but thaay be ahl on 'em a-comin' far *the Christmas*.'

Churchman. A man who responds loudly in church is called 'a good *churchman*.' (Abberley.)

Cleaches, *n.* clots of blood.

Clem, *v.* to starve with hunger. 'E's reg'lar *clemmed*; 'tis no good a-talkin' till 'e's 'ad a bit o' fittle in 'is mouth.'

Clemency, *adj.* inclement: of the weather.

Clip, *v.* to embrace. 'The child *clipped* me round the neck.'

Cluttock, *n.* clot. 'I püt the milk by over night, an' when I looked at 'im i' the marnin' 'twas ahl gon' in *clutocks*.'

Codlins and cream, *Epilobium palustre*, Lesser Willowherb.

Colley, *n.* black, soot, or smut. *v.* to blacken. See Wedgwood.

Ben Jonson, *Poetaster*, Act IV. sc. iii.: 'Thou hast not *collied* thy face enough.'

Collogue, *v.* to consult. 'I'll *collogue* wi' the missis, an' see what 'er advises we to do.'

Green, *Tu Quoque*, Act VII. sc. viii.: 'Pray go in, and, sister, salve the matter. *Collogue* with her again; all shall go well.'

Malcontent, Act IV. 94: 'Why look ye, we must *collogue* sometimes, forswear sometimes.'

Come-back, *n.* a guinea-fowl.

Come-yer-ways, a term of endearment.

Company, *n.* grade; social standing. A drunken man was heard to say, 'I baint kitchin *company*; I be drorin'-room *company*, I be.'

Coolth, *n.* cold. (Heref. Border.)

Cop, *n.* in ploughing, the first 'bout' of a 'veering.' *Prompt. Parv.*

Coppy, *n.* a small coppice.

Cord of wood, a bundle of wood 5 ft. high, 8 ft. long, and 4 ft. 1 in. wide.

Cord wood, *n.* the small upper branches of trees, used for fuel, or for making charcoal.

Costrel, *n.* a drinking-flask. *Prompt. Parv.*

Coutch, *v.* to stoop down, or crouch. See Wedgwood under *Couch*.

'E *couted* in the carner, so as thaay shouldna see 'im.'

Craiky, *adj.* weak; infirm; shaky. See Wedgwood under *Craek*.

'This 'ere's a mighty *craiky* owd 'ouse.' 'I conna get about much now, not to do no good, yū knaows; I'm naught but a *craiky* owd piece.'

Cratch, *n.* a rack for hay, or other fodder. See Wedgwood; *Prompt. Parv.*; Bay.

Spenser, *Hymn of Heavenly Love*, st. 30:

'Beginne from first where He encradled was
In simple *cratch*.'

Cress-tiles, *n.* tiles used for the ridge of a roof. *Prompt. Parv.*

Crib, *n.* bin into which hops are picked.

Cribbing, *n.* a custom (happily falling into disuse) by which female pickers seized upon, lifted into a *crib*, and half smothered with hops and kisses, any strange man who entered the hop-yard while picking was going on.

Crinks, *n.* refuse apples.

Crinky, *adj.* small; inferior.

Crock, *n.* an earthen pot.

Crocks, *n.* broken bits of earthenware.

Croft, *n.* field near a house, or other building. 'The church *crafts*' are fields near a church.

Piers Plowman, Passus IV. ver. 62 (Text A):

'Thenne schal ye come bi a *croft*.'

Passus VII. ver. 35 (Text A):

'And fecche ye hom Faucons ye Foules to quelle
For thei comen into my Craft, and croppen my whete.'

Croodle, *v.* to bend, or stoop down; to cower. 'Sit up, Lizzie, can't yū. What are yū *croodlin'* over yer work like that for?'

Cross-eyed, *adj.* squinting.

Cruddle, *v.* to curdle.

Spenser, *Shepherd's Calender*, February, l. 43:

'Comes the breme winter
Drerily shooting his stormy darte,
Which *cruddles* the blood, and pricks the harte.'

Fairy Queen, Bk. I. cant. vii. st. 6:

'His changed powers at first themselves not fele,
Till *cruddled* cold his corage 'gan assayle.'

Cruddy, *adj.* curdled; full of curds.

Fairy Queen, Bk. III. cant. iv. st. 34:

' . . . All in gore
And *cruddy* blood enwallowed.'

Cruds, *n.* curds.

Piers Plowman, Passus VII. ver. 299 (Text A):

'A few *cruddes* and craym.'

Cub, (1) *n.* hutch for rabbits or poultry. *Witness at Petty Sessions.*

'I see the pigeons i' the *cub* a Frid'y marnin'.'

(2) *v.* to confine in small space. 'Tis a shame to *cub* them poor bists up in that 'ole uv a place.'

Cubbed-up, *adj.* bent; crumpled. 'Father's reg'lur *cubbed-up* uv rheumatics, till 'e can't 'aowd 'isself up no waay.'

Cub-up, *v.* to pucker, or hang badly. 'Did yū ever see anythin' so bad cut as that poor child's pinner? Look 'ow it *cubs up* o' the showlder.'

Cuckoo's bread and cheese, *Oxalis acetosella*, Wood Sorrel.

Cuckoo's-mate, *n.* the Wryneck.

Cuckoo-spit, *Anemone nemerosa*, Wind-flower.

Cullen, *n.* refuse corn. Corruption of *culling*. *Prompt. Parv.*

Cully, *v.* to cuddle.

Cups and saucers, *Cotyledon umbilicus*, Wall Pennywort.

Curst, *adj.* ill-tempered; whimsical. 'Why would you not speak to the gentleman, Louie, when he kissed you?' Louie (aged 5): 'Cos I'm so *curst*, you know!' (1880).

Cust, *adj.* sharp-witted; intelligent. 'I don't b'lieve as Tom 'ull ever know 'is letters; but Bill, 'e's a *cust* 'un, 'e is, 'e can read perty tidy.'

Cutting, *adj.* touching to the feelings; affecting. 'That's a real beautiful book, 'tis so *cuttin'*; I cried a sight over 'im.'

Cutting hops, root-pruning them.

Daddaky, *adj.* inferior; middling. See Wedgwood under *Dad*, *Dawd*.

Dag, *v.* to draggle, or trail in the dirt. *Prompt. Parv.*

Dawny, *adj.* soft and damp. 'I canna kip a bit o' fittle in this place, things gets *dawny* d'reckly yū pūts 'em down out a yer 'and.'

Deadly, *adj.* clever; active; excellent. 'Mrs. — is a *deadly* 'ōōman at doctorin' sick folks.'

Dearn, *adj.* (1) raw; cold: of the weather.

(2) tender; careful. 'Mr. — is mighty *dearn* uv 'is dogs 'an' 'arses, but 'e dunna make much account uv 'is children.'

Deef, *adj.* deaf.

Chaucer, *Cant. Tales*, Prol., 446:

'A good wif was ther of beside Bathe,
But she was som del *deef*.'

Denial, *n.* injury; disadvantage. 'To laowse yer sight is a great (or girt) *denial* to anybody.'

Deny of, *v.* to deny.

Ding, *v.* to bluster; to boast loudly. 'I'm tired to death o' hearin' 'im *dingin*' about that lad o' 'is bein' so mighty clever!'

Disaccord, *v.* to disagree. Pronounced *disaccard*. 'What are you crying for, Albert?' Albert (aged 6): 'Jack Rice and me *disaccorded* comin' down from school.' (1880.)

Spenser, *F. Queen*, Bk. VI. cant. iii. st. 7:

'But she did *disaccord*,
Nor could her liking to his love apply.'

Disannul, *v.* to dispossess. 'The parish 'as *disannulled* mē uv my paay (pay), but this little 'ouse is my own; thaay conna *disannul* mē o' that.'

Discern, *v.* to catch sight of, or perceive. Used as in Proverbs vii. 7. 'I *discerned* summut glimmin' i' the sun, an' I puck it up, an' it were this 'ere silver pencil-case.'

Dither, *v.* to shake or tremble from cold or fright. See Wedgwood under *Dod*.

Dither, *n.* grass and other weeds in cornfields, &c.

Do, *n.* a great occasion, entertainment, or fuss.

Dodment, *n.* ointment composed of grease mixed with dust from a church bell: a cure for shingles.

Doubles. To go on one's two *doubles* is to walk with two sticks.

Douk, (1) *v.* to duck the head. Pronounced *daouk*. 'You must *daouk* yer 'ed to get through that little door.'

(2) *n.* a crease, or mark. 'Make a *daouk* i' the edge to mark w'ahr you've measured the stuff to.'

Dout, *v.* to extinguish. Pronounced *daout*.

Dunny, *adj.* deaf.

Dure, *v.* to last. *Coles.* 'I buy'd this 'ere weskit off a groom as were a goin' to leave — house. 'Ee've *dured* me a many years. 'Ee *do dure*, sure-lie.'

Chaucer, *Cant. Tales*, Knightes Tale, 501 :

'So mochel sorwe hadde never creature
That is, or shal, while that the world may *dure*.'

Eacle, *n.* the Woodpecker. About Kidderminster this bird is called the *stock-eacle*.

Eam, or **Eme**, *adj.* near. 'Which is the way to church?' 'You can go by the road, but the *emest* waay is across the crafts.'

Eckth, *n.* height. 'Ast ta bin a' the cathedral at 'Ööster? Eh! 'tis a *eckth* to be sure!'

Eftest, *adj.* soonest.

Egg-hot, *n.* egg-flip.

Ellern tree, *n.* elder.

Piers Plowman, Passus I. ver. 66 (Text A):

'Judas he iaped with the iewes seluer,
And on an *ellerne* tree hongede him aftur.'

Emp, *v.* to empty. The people about Tenbury always speak of 'the plaayce w'ahr Severn *emps* into Teme.' 'The bruck *emps* into Teme anighst our 'ouse.' *Empt* is occasionally heard.

Enew, or **Enow**, enough. 'I'll warnd yŷ (warrant) 'e's got friends *enew*!'

Ercle, *n.* a pimple.

Erriwig, *n.* earwig.

Ess, or **Hess**, *n.* ashes.

Ess-hole, the hole under cottage-grates for the reception of ashes.

Evenin' time. Any time past noon is spoken of as *evenin' time*, or the *evenin' part*. A woman lately wished me 'good marnin'' at 1.30 p.m., then, having passed, turned back to apologize: 'Good *evenin'* ma'am, I should 'a' said.'

Evenless, or **E'enless**, *adj.* awkward; unknowing. 'Let that cow be, yŷ *e'enless* thing, you'll be the ruination of everything. I mun milk 'er mysen.'

Ever-so. 'If it was *ever so*' = reduced to the last extremity. 'I wunt ax 'im for bread, *not if it was ever so*; I'll clem first.'

Eyeable, *adj.* fit to be seen. 'Owd Jack Maund now, 'e's the right sart av cobbler; 'e taks a dill o' paayns wi' 'is wark, 'tis allus *eyeable*, and summat like.'

Fad, (1) *n.* whim; fancy. (2) *v.* to be busy about trifles. See Wedgwood. (1) 'What are those railings for, John?' 'Oh, 'tis

just a *fad* o' 'is lardship's, naowt but a *fad* o' 'is'n, yū knaows; thaay be o' no sart o' use.' (2) 'The gaffer's gettin' mighty simple, 'e canna do much. 'E jus' *fad* about uv a marnin' like.'

Faddy, *adj.* fanciful; full of whims.

Faggit, *n.* a term of reproach used to children.

Faggits, *n.* a very unappetizing kind of *rissole*, sold at small provision shops.

Falsify, *v.* to sham. 'That young Jem's a cute little chap. To see 'ow 'e *falsifies* when 'e wants to stop at wum from school! 'E's allus got the 'edache, or bellyache, or summat.'

Falter, *v.* to fail in health.

Fanteagues, *ill-humour*. 'I never seed sich a arbiterry owd chap: 'e's allus on with some uv 'is *fanteagues*.'

Fathead, *n.* a stupid person.

Fearn, *v.* fern.

Feature, *v.* to resemble. 'I'd 'a knaowd 'im anyw'ahrs, 'e *features* 'is brother so.'

Feg, *v.* to scratch.

Felth, *n.* sensation. 'I be that starven, I 'an't got no *felth* in my 'ands nor my fit.'

Fet, *v.* to fetch. *Prompt. Parv.* 'I'll *fet* the arrants i' the evenin', w'en them childern's at school.'
Shakspeare, *Henry V.*, Act III. sc. i.:

'You noblest English,
Whose blood is *fet* from fathers of war-proof'

Spenser, *F. Queen*, Bk. II. cant. ix. st. 58:

'But for he was unable them to *fett*,
A little boy did on him still attend,
To reach whenever he for ought did send.'

Ben Jonson, *Cynthia's Revels*, Act IV. sc. i.: 'This may be good for us ladies, for it seems far *fet* by their stay.'

Fetch, *v.* to deliver. 'E upped an' *fetched* me a crack a the yud with 'is stick.'

Fettle, *v.* to dress oneself; to set to rights; to prepare; to feed or 'bed up' cattle, &c. See Wedgwood. '*Fettle* thysen, an' thee shalt go to town i' the gig.' 'This room's all uv a mullock, it wants *fettlin'* above a bit.' 'The gaffer's *fettlin'* the gardin' agin the flower show.' 'Tummas, thee mun go and *fettle* them bists down at the by-tack; thee'll be back by supper-time.'

Shakspeare, *Romeo and Juliet*, Act III. sc. vi.:

'*Fettle* your fine joints 'gainst Thursday next.'

Filbeard, *n.* filbert. Tusser, *Five Hundred Pointes of Good Husbandrie*, sec. 34, l. 9: '*Filbeards* red and white.'

Filler, *n.* the shaft-horse, *i. e.* the horse in the *jills*, or shafts. See **Thiller**.

Fire-brand-new, *adj.* quite new.

Fitchet, or **Fitchew**, *n.* a pole-cat. See Wedgwood.

Shakspeare, *Troilus and Cressida*, Act V. sc. i.:

'To be a dog, a mule, a cat, a *fitchew*.'

Fitchet-pie, a pie made of apples, onions, and fat bacon chopped up together.

Fittle, *n.* victuals. 'What aay'ls thee, lad, that thee canst na' eat thy *fittle*?'

Flannin, *n.* flannel. See Wedgwood.

Flit, *v.* to remove from one house to another. See Wedgwood.

Footman, *n.* A good walker is termed 'a good *footman*.'

Form yourself = put yourself in an attitude.

Forrat, *v.* to bring forward; to promote. 'This 'ere drap o' raay'n 'ull *forrat* the haay.'

Foul, (1) *adj.* plain-featured. 'How do you think Mrs. Jones looks in her new bonnet, Patty?' 'Ugh! 'Er's mighty *foul* sure-lie, 'er wants summat ta smarten 'er up a bit, 'er do.'

(2) *n.* a disease in the feet of cattle. This is cured (?) by cutting a sod on which the diseased foot has pressed, and hanging it on a blackthorn bush. This disease is mentioned by Fitzherbert.

Freemartin, *n.* When twin calves, male and female, are produced, the latter is called a *freemartin*, under the belief that it is barren.

Fresh-liquor, *n.* pig's lard.

Fretchet, *adj.* cross; peevish. See Wedgwood under *Fret*. 'This child's that *fretchet* this 'ot weather, till I dunno w'at to do with 'un.'

Frog, *n.* the soft part of a horse's foot.

Frog, *v.* to crawl on the hands and knees, as young children do.

Fruit, *n.* apples and pears only are usually meant by the term.

Frum, *adj.* early. 'I've some beautiful *frum* 'taters; would yū 'cept av a few far yer dinner, sir?'

Frump, *v.* to swell. Bacon killed in the wane of the moon is said never to *frump* in boiling.

Furzen, *n.* gorse.

Fussock, *n.* a fat unwieldy person: an expression of contempt.

Gaffer, *n.* master. 'W'ahr's the *gaffer*? I wants to axe 'im if 'e conna find a job fur our Bill.'

Gain, *adj.* quick; ready; convenient. See Wedgwood. 'Tak' the 'arse an' leave 'im at the smithy as thee goes by; that 'ull be the *gainest* waay.'

Morte D'Arthur, Bk. VII. ch. xx.:

'Took the *gainest* way in that fury.'

Gainly, *adv.* quickly; handily.

Galland, or **Gallant**, *n.* gallon.

Gallus, *adj.* wicked; impudent. 'I be reg'lar 'shamed o' our Olfred, 'e's such a *gallus* little chap, thahr an't anybody as 'e 'oan't sahce' (sauce).

Gambol, *v.* to climb. See Wedgwood. 'E *gamboled* over the yat as nimble as ninepence.'

Gammets, *n.* joke; trick; mockery. 'You be makin' *gammets* o' me, sir.'

Gammon, *n.* nonsense; pretence. See Wedgwood. 'You needna come tellin' mē that taay'l, Betty Lucas; I wants none o' your *gammon* 'ere.

Gampus, *n.* the hinder part of the traces used in ploughing and other field-work. In some districts these are called 'fitting traces.' Auctioneer's Catalogue, Worcester, 1880.

Garment, *n.* a chemise.

Gashly, *adj.* ghastly. See Wedgwood under *Aghast*. 'E's lost a sight o' blood sure-lie; 'e looks as *gashly* as ever did a carpe!'

Gaun, *n.* a tub holding a gallon.

Gay, *n.* a swing.

Get-beyond, *v.* to recover; to cure; to control; to master a subject. 'Er's mighty bad, I doubt 'er 'oan't *get-beyond* it this time.' 'The 'ops grows that despr'it, us canna *get-beyond* 'um to tie 'um.' 'E taowd mē ever such a taay'l about it, but 'e talks so queer, I couldna *get-beyond* 'im no waay.'

Giddling, *adj.* light; unsteady. 'Dunna yū get into that thahr boat if so be thahr's no 'un with yū as can swim. 'Tis a *giddling* thing, an' you'll sure to be drowned.'

Gill-ferret, *n.* female ferret.

Ginger, *adj.* careful; tender; light of touch.

Glat, *n.* a gap in a hedge.

Gleed, *n.* the red heat of a fire. 'E wrote that nasty, an' I were that vexed with the letter, I put it right i' the *gleed*, an' 'twas gone in a minute.'

Chaucer, *Cant. Tales*, Miller's Tale, 267:

'And wafres piping hot out of the *glede*.'

Glim, (1) *n.* a light. (2) *v.* to shine. See Wedgwood under *Gleam*. Spenser, *F. Queen*, Bk. VI. cant. viii. st. 48:

'There by th' uncertain *glime* of starry night.'

Glost-oven, *n.* the kiln in which china is baked after receiving the glaze.

Gondud, *n.* a gander.

Gonshume-ye! expletive.

Gooding Day, *n.* St. Thomas's Day.

Gooding, to go, *v.* to go begging on St. Thomas's Day.

Good-sorted, *adj.* of good kind. 'Us 'as very *good-sarted* fruit in our archert.' '*Good-sorted* pigs.'—Auctioneer's Catalogue, 1880.

Go-off, *n.* beginning. 'The parson gied mē this 'ere coät, an' 'e've dured mē five or six year. I didna war 'im every daay, not at the first *go-off* you knaows.'

Gouk, *n.* a stupid, awkward fellow.

Granch, *v.* to grind the teeth, or make a grinding noise.

Great, *adj.* familiar; intimate. 'Our lads wuz use to be very *great* with 'is'n.'

Grippet, *adj.* grasping. 'E's that *grippet* 'e'll scahrse allow 'isself enough to eat.'

Gripple, (1) *adj.* miserly. (2) *n.* miser.

Spenser, *F. Queen*, Bk. I. cant. iv. ver. 31:

'An' as he rode he gnasht his teeth to see
Those heaps of gold with *gripple* covetyse.'

Grippleness, *n.* greed. 'E inna so bad off as 'e makes out, 'tis nowt but *grippleness* makes 'im live so near.'

Ground, to be on the, to be in want of boots.

Gull, *n.* a young goose.

Gullock, *v.* to swallow down. See Wedgwood under *Gullet*. 'I sid (saw) one o' them thahr great cranes (herons) *gullocking* down a frog.'

Gulls, willow-catkins.

Hairy-milner, *n.* the caterpillar; commonly known as 'woolly bear.'
(Bewdley.)

Half-soaked, *adj.* silly; of weak intellect.

Hammergag, *v.* to scold; to rate. 'Ow 'im an' 'er do quar'l, to be sure. You can 'ear 'em thraow the wall, 'ammergaggin' awaay from marnin' till night.'

Hampern, *n.* hamper.

Hand. At one hand, at one time. 'Sam's a very good lad to me now, but *at one 'and* I thaowt 'e'd never do no good, to 'isself nar no one else.'

On the mending hand, recovering; convalescent. 'The fever's made 'im mighty weak, but 'e's on the *mendin' 'and* now.'

To have a full hand, to have plenty of work.

Hardishrew, *n.* the field-mouse; also **Hardistraw**. (Abberley.)

Haums, or **Holmes**, *n.* part of the harness of cart-horses, to which the traces are fastened. Corruption of *hames*.

Hay-bay, *n.* a place on the ground-floor for keeping hay, &c.

Heartless, *adj.* disheartening. 'Tis 'artless to try an' kip yer 'ouse tidy w'en tharhr's such a lot uv mullock out in the yard, 'an folks comes traipsin' it in an' out.'

Heart-well, *adj.* well; in general health. 'How are you now, Jacob?' 'Well, I be 'eart-well, thank yū, but I've got the rheumatics in my showlder mortal bad.'

Heft, (1) *n.* weight; (2) a shooting pain; (3) *v.* to lift. (1) 'That pan is real good iron, 'tis sold by *heft*.' (2) 'I've got such a *heft* in my side, I canna scahrseely draw my breath.' (3) 'Do carr' this paay'l (pail) far mē, I canna *heft* it when it's full o' watter.'

Herds, *n.* tow.

Hespil, *v.* to hurry, or agitate.

Hess, *n.* ashes. See **Ess**.

Hetherings, *n.* slender willow boughs used for binding hedges.

Hire, *v.* to borrow money at interest.

Hiver-hover, *v.* to waver. 'I canna tell if I ought to go or no: I bin 'iver-'overin' over it this wik or more.'

Hobbody's lantern, *n.* *Ignis-fatuus*.

Hob-ferret, *n.* the male ferret.

Hoblionkers, a children's game, played in autumn with horse-chestnuts strung together. For information on the various forms of this game, see a correspondence in *Notes and Queries*, 1878. The following rhyme, used in this game here, has been written down for me by a National School boy. The spelling is his own.

Hobley, hobley Honcor,
My first conkor.
Hobley, Hobley ho,
My first go.
Hobley, hobley ack,
My first smack.

Hog, *n.* same as **Teg**.

Hoggish, *adj.* obstinate.

Hoggy, *adj.* clumsy; ugly. 'The parish 'as give poor little Bill this ere pa'r o' boots. I should like far you to saay, miss, did you ever see a *hoggier* pa'r? Why the poor lad canna lift 'is fit up 'ardly, thaay be so lompersome.'

Hone, *v.* to long for. Pronounced *o-an*. 'Thahr's on'y one thing 'e 'ones far, an' that's a drap o' cider. But the doctor says 'e munna 'ave it, not on no account.'

Hoove, *v.* to hoe.

Hop-dog, *n.* a caterpillar found in hops.

Hop-oulud, *n.* a moth found in hop-yards in May.

Hoppers, *n.* crystals of salt that form at the top of the pans. (Droitwich.)

Houssack, *n.* a loud, noisy cough. See **Tissack**.

Houze, *v.* to breathe hoarsely.

Houzing, *n.* a hoarseness. 'The child's got a reg'lur bad cowl: 'e's such a 'ouzin' on 'is chest as is quite terrifyin'.'

Hud, *n.* a husk or shell. 'W'en thee'st done shellin' them peasen, püt the 'uds far the pigs.'

Huff, (1) *v.* to offend. (2) *n.* a fit of temper.

Hullocking, *adj.* hulking; overbearing.

Humbuzz, *n.* the cockchafer. See Wedgwood under *Hum*.

Hurt, *v.* to put at a disadvantage; to try the feelings. *Domestic Servant*. 'You don't think as I've took that spoon, ma'am? I've looked fur it everywheres, an' can't find it. It 'ull 'urt me more nor you if it can't be found. It cosses you money, but it cosses me my character.'

Ickle, *v.* to long for.

Iffing and Offing, *n.* indecision.

Ill-convenient, *adj.* inconvenient.

Insense, *v.* to explain; to cause to understand. 'E *insensed* me into the manin' of it.' *Missense*, to cause to misunderstand, is used by Bishop Jewel in a sermon preached at St. Paul's Cross, 1560.

Jack-squaler, *n.* the Swift.

Jack-up, *v.* to throw up; to resign. 'The missis, 'er's that faddy you canna please 'er naow-waay; an' Bill, 'e's reg'lar dahnted; 'e's *jacked-up* 'is plack, 'e canna stand it no longer.'

Jacky-wobstraw, *n.* the Blackcap.

Jazy, or sometimes **Jazyfled**, *adj.* tired out; flagging.

Jerry-house, *n.* beer-house.

Jigger, *n.* a horizontal lathe used in china-making.

Josen, *n.* a toad.

Keep, *v.* To *keep* a market is to attend it.

Kell, *n.* caul. *Prompt. Parv.*

Kerf, *n.* a hoe: bills of sale, 1875, 1877, 1878, 1879.

Kerf, *v.* to hoe: applied to field work. Gardens are *caffed*.

Kernel, *n.* a hard swelling, or indurated gland. *Prompt. Parv.*
'*Kyrnel*, or knobbe yn a beeste or mannys flesche.'

Kid, *n.* a faggot of sticks. See Wedgwood, and *Prompt. Parv.*

Kiddle, *v.* to dribble, as babies do.

Kimit, *adj.* silly; idiotic. (Shropshire Border.)

Kind, *adj.* favourable; in good condition. *Local proverb*: 'A cold May is *kind*.' 'Us acoan't 'ave a many currands this year, but the plums sims very *kind*.'

Kipe, *n.* a basket.

Kitty-kyloe, *n.* a kitten.

Knerly, *adj.* flavoured with kernels: applied to cider.

Know to, *v.* know of. 'Please, miss, 'ould yŷ like a young lennet or a throstle? I *knows* to some nesses.'

Lade, *n.* a shovel with which brine is taken out of the pan. (Droitwich.)

Lade-gaun, *n.* ladle for serving out pig's wash.

Lady-cow, *n.* the Lady-bird.

Lap, *v.* to wrap up. *Prompt. Parv.*

Latsome, *adv.* late.

Laze, *n.* idleness.

Learn, *v.* to teach. Cf. A.S. *læran*, to teach; *leornian*, to learn. Chaucer, *Cant. Tales*, Chanones Yemannes Tale, 125:

'To *lerne* a lewed man this sutiltee.'

Ps. xix. 66: 'Oh *learn* me true understanding and knowledge.'

Leasowe, *n.* a meadow.

Leather, *v.* to beat.

Leatherun-bat, *n.* the common Bat.

Leaze, *v.* to glean. See Skeat.

Leer, *adj.* empty. 'I comed awaay without my breakfuss this marnin'. I feels mighty *leer*, I mun 'ave a bit o' nunccheon.'

Lennet, *n.* the linnet.

Lennow, (1) *adj.* lissom. 'When I were young an' *lennaow* I'd a gambolled over that stile like one o'clock.'

(2) *v.* to make pliable. 'Them clothes wuz stiff o' the frost, but the sun 'ull soon *lennaow* 'um agin.' *Linnao* is occasionally heard.

Lent-corn, *n.* wheat sown in spring.

Lick, (1) *n.* a blow. 'E give the dog a *lick* uv 'is stick.'

(2) *v.* to wipe over lightly. 'The floor's shameful dirty, but us munna wet 'im; jus' give 'im a *lick* over, will 'ee, Mairy?'

(3) *v.* to puzzle. 'If I canna kip that b'y at 'ome wunst or tweist a wik uv'out bein' summonsed far it, it *licks* me to know w'at to do.' (Irate mother on Education Act, 1880.)

Lie-by, *n.* mistress. *Witness in assault case*. 'I taowd 'im I didna cahr for 'im-nar 'is *lie-by*.'

Likely, *adj.* promising.

Mallory, *Morte D'Arthur*, Bk. VII. chap. iv.:

'He is as *likely* a man as ever ye saw.'

Like upon, *v.* to like. 'Th' owd squire, 'e wer a good maaſter ;
everybody liked upon 'im.'

Linty, *adj.* idle ; lazy.

Lirrox, *n.* an untidy, shiftless person.

Lodge, *v.* to beat down.

Lodged, *adj.* beaten down by wind or rain.

Shakspere, *Macbeth*, Act IV. sc. i. l. 55 :

'Though bladed corn be *lodged.*'

Richard II., Act III. sc. iii. l. 161 :

'We'll make foul weather with despised tears,
Our sighs and they shall *lodge* the summer corn.'

Lollopping, *adj.* ungainly. See Wedgwood.

Lombersome, *adj.* cumbersome.

Loose, *v.* to go alone (said of young children). Pronounced *laowse*.

Louk, *v.* to beat, or thump. Pronounced *laowk*.

Lubberdeloy, *n.* hobbledehoy. See Wedgwood under *Lubber*.

Lug, *v.* to draw, or carry. See Wedgwood.

Lungeous, *adj.* pugnacious. See Wedgwood under *Lunch*.

Luny, *adj.* imbecile ; lunatic.

Lush, *v.* to beat with green boughs. 'Wilt 'ee come along o' me to tak'
some wappeses nesses ? Thee can pull out the caäk, w'ile I *lushes.*'

Mag, (1) *n.* a scold. (2) *v.* to scold.

Maggle, *v.* to tease.

Maggot, *n.* Magpie.

Tusser, *Five Hundred Pointes of Good Husbandrie*, xlix. 9 :

'If gentils be scrawling call *magget* the py.'

(See note.)

Mammock, or **Mummock**, *v.* to cut or hack to pieces. See Wedgwood. 'E *mammocks* 'is fittle so, 'tis a shame to see 'im.'

Shakspere, *Cor.*, Act I. sc. iii. l. 71 :

'Oh, I warrant, how he *mammocked* it.'

Market-fresh, or **Market-peart**, *adj.* half intoxicated.

Marl, or **Marvel**, *n.* marble.

Mase, *v.* to be confused ; giddy, or light-headed. See Skeat.

Chaucer, *Cant. Tales*, Merchant's Tale, 1140 :

'Ye *mase*, ye *masen*, goode sire, quod she,
This thank have I for I have made you see !
Alas ! quod she, that ever I was so kind.'

Mank, *v.* to mimic. 'What are you crying for, Emma? "The b—b—b'ys *mauks* me; thaay says I d—do b—b—buft so!"'

Mawkin, *n.* scarecrow. Corruption of *morkin*.

Maxim, *n.* plan; contrivance. 'The curate's a frustrate 'un amongst the lads; 'e's got such a many *maxims* to amuse 'um.'

Meaching, *adj.* melancholy; complaining. 'Er's a poor *meachin'* sart uv a döman; 'er never were good fur much.'

Meretorious, *adj.* having a show of reason, or excuse. 'I never tells a lie as a't no sart o' use; w'en I tells a lie, I tells a *meritori-ous* 'un.' Kidderminster, 1880.

Mergald, *n.* confusion; mess.

Mess, *n.* term of contempt for anything small or weak. "It's a poor little *mess* uv a thing.'

Middling, *adj.* unwell; indifferent; good. *Very middling*, very ill; very bad. *Pretty middling*, fairly well.

Miff, *n.* misunderstanding. See Wedgwood.

Peter Pindar, l. 81:

'Deal Gainsborough a lash for pride so stiff,
Who robs us of such pleasure for a *miff*.'

Mimocking, *adj.* grimacing.

Mimping, *adj.* dainty. 'I never see such a *mimpin'* 'arse as this 'ere, I canna get 'im to eat 'is food.'

Mindless, *adj.* weak-minded. *Worcester Assizes*, 1874. 'The prisoner seemed to be *mindless*.'

Miscall, *v.* to abuse. 'That's a good natered sart uv a chap fur ahl 'is faults. Many's the time I've chattered 'un well fur gettin' the drink, an' 'e's never *miscalled* me for it.'

Spenser, *F. Q.*, Bk. IV. cant. viii. st. 24:

'Whom she with leasings lewdly did *miscall*,
And wickedly backbite.'

Misle, *v.* to rain slightly. See Wedgwood.

Spenser, *Shep. Cal.*, November, l. 208:

'Now gynnes to *misle*, hye we homeward fast.'

Miss, *n.* loss. 'Sair' Ann 'ave bin that spylt, 'er dunno w'en 'er's well off. 'Er 'ull feel the *miss* on it, w'en 'er mother's dyud.'

Misword, *n.* blame. 'Ben, 'e wer a good man to me; we wuz married farty year, an' 'e never so much as give me a *misword*.'

Mit, *n.* a small tub for washing butter in.

Moggy, *n.* a calf.

Moil, (1) *v.* to toil. Skeat, *mollify*, *moil*. (2) to soil, or make dirty. Spenser, *Hymn of Heav. Love*:

'Then rouze thyself, O Earth, out of thy soyle,
In which thou wallowest like to filthy swine,
And dost thy mind in durty pleasures *moyle*.'

Moiled, *adj.* soiled ; dirty.

Moither, (1) to worry. (2) to be delirious. See Wedgwood. 'E's mighty simple this marnin'; 'is yud's bin so bad ahl night, 'e kips *moitherin'* ahl the w'ild.'

Moithered, *adj.* troubled ; confused ; delirious.

Momble, *v.* to crumble, or waste food.

Mombed, *adj.* wasted ; thrown away.

Mommock, *n.* confusion. 'The 'ouse were ahl uv a *mommock*.'

Mop, *n.* a hiring fair.

Moral, *n.* resemblance ; likeness. 'Jack's the very *moral* uv 'is fäther.'

Mose, (1) *v.* to burn slowly. (2) to rot.

Mosey, *adj.* half-rotten ; over-ripe.

Mossel, *n.* morsel.

Mouch, *v.* to go prying about. 'That owd black cat goes *mouchin'* about, in an' out uv folkses 'ousen, er'll sure to get shot one uv these daays.'

Mout, *v.* to moult. Pronounced *maout*.

Mowd, *n.* mould. Pronounced *maoud*.

Mowy, *n.* a rough unkempt child.

Muckedy, *adj.* cold ; wet ; dirty (of the weather).

Muckery, *adj.* same as above.

Muffle, *n.* the kiln in which china is finally burnt after being painted, &c.

Mullen, *n.* bridle of a cart-horse. *Witness at Petty Sessions, 1877.*
'The prisoner püt the *mullen* on the mahr.'

Mullock, (1) *n.* dirt ; litter. (2) *v.* to make a litter. See Wedgwood ; Ray, *N. C. Words*.

Chaucer, *Cant. Tales*, Reves Prologue, 19 :

'That ilke fruit is ever lenger the wers,
Til it be roten in *mullok*.'

Chanones Yemanne's Prologue, 385-7 :

'The *mullok* on a heap ysweped was,
And on the flore ycast a canevas,
And all this *mullok* in a sive ythrowe.'

All-uv-a-mullock = all of a heap.

Mumruffin, *n.* the long-tailed tit.

Munch, *v.* to treat cruelly. 'See that limb uv a b'y (boy), 'ow 'e *munches* the poor cat!'

Mundle, *n.* a flat piece of wood used to stir up cream before it is churned. Every one who enters the dairy is expected to stir the cream to keep out the fairies.

Nag, *v.* to scold unnecessarily. See Skeat, *gnaw*, *nag*.

Naggy, *adj.* cross, peevish.

Naale, *n.* the smallest pig in a litter.

Nast, *n.* dirt; filth.

Native, *n.* native place. 'W'ahr is your *native*?' = Where do you come from?

Natomy, *n.* 'Er's naowt but a *natomy*' = She is nothing but skin and bone.

Naunt, *n.* aunt. Pronounced *nant*.

Near, *adj.* mean; stingy.

Neb, *n.* beak; bill. *Prompt. Parv.*; Ray, *N. C. Glossary*.

Nerking, *adj.* harsh; keen (of the wind).

Nesh, *adj.* tender; delicate; susceptible of cold. *Prompt. Parv.*
Court of Love, v. 1092:

'His herte is tendre *néssh*.'

Nipper, *n.* youngster.

Nisgill, *n.* the smallest of a brood of poultry; applied figuratively to weak or undersized persons.

Noddy, *n.* an oddity.

Nog, *n.* knot; knob, or any unevenness in the stalks of flax.

Noggy, *adj.* full of nogs.

Nogman, *n.* one who beats out *nogs* from the flax.

None = no time. 'Er 'adna bin gone *none* when you come in.'

Nor, *conj.* than.

Noration, *n.* oration; speech-making.

No two ways about it. This is a favourite phrase to signify that there is but one solution of a difficulty; it is commonly used to end an argument.

Nubblings, *n.* small bits of coal.

Nuncheon, *n.* luncheon. See Skeat, *nine*, *nuncheon*.

Nurra one = not one.

O', *prep.* on; of. The vowel sound used to represent these words is really that of *u* in *but* (Standard English). To avoid confusion, it is written *o'*, for these prepositions.

Odds, *v.* to alter. 'Us none on us likes this plaayce like w'ahr we wuz used to live, an' we're sorry as we ever shifted; but we canna *odds* it now.'

Offal, *n.* waste wood. See Wedgwood. *Prompt. Parv.* 'Offall, that is levyd of a thinge, as chippings of a tre.'

Oldmaid, *n.* the lapwing.

Oldness, *n.* cunning.

Oney, *adj.* idle. Pronounced *o-ney*. 'My son a'nt able to work d'yū saay? 'E *con* if 'e's a mind, but 'e allus *was* oney.'

Orle, *v.* alder tree.

Orts, *n.* odds and ends; leavings; rubbish. Pronounced *arts*. See Skeat. 'I puck up ahl them *arts* o' yourn this marnin', miss; but mind yū, yū 'oona cotch mē a doin' it agin.'

Shakspere, *Timon of Athens*, Act IV. sc. iii. l. 400:

'Some poor fragment, some slender *ort* of his remainder.'

Osbud, *n.* illegitimate child.

Oss, *v.* to offer to do; to attempt. Seldom used but when the attempt is unsuccessful. See Wedgwood. Ray, *N. C. Words*. 'E *ossed* to jump the bruck, but 'e couldna do't; t'warn't likely!'

Oulud, *n.* a moth. Sometimes owl.

Ounder, *n.* afternoon. A.S. *undern*. 'Us 'ad a raayny *acunder*, o' Maay daay.'

Outch, *v.* to crouch down. A hare is said to 'outch on 'er farm.'

Overget, *v.* to recover from. 'It did so 'urt me when I buried my little 'un, that I didn't *overget* it ahl the summer.'

Owd-anshent, *adj.* old-fashioned. 'To see that poor owd lady go to chu'ch uv a Sundy, anybody'd think as 'er 'adna a penny piece! Such a *owd-anshent* gownd as 'er wears, an' a shahl (shawl) ahl scroauged up, as if 'er'd kep it in 'er pocket ahl the wik.'

Oxberry, *n.* the berry of the *Arum maculatum*. The juice is used as a remedy for warts.

Oylyster, *n.* oyster. (Bewdley.)

Peart, *adj.* bright; lively; in good spirits. See Wedgwood under *Perk*. *As peart as a spoon* means unusually bright and cheerful.

Peasen, *n.* peas.

Chaucer, *Legend of G. W.*, Cleopatra, 69:

'He poureth *peesen* upon the hatches slider.'

Peck, *v.* to fall forward. 'Missus wuz comin' downstars, an' 'er yud was a bit wimmy-like, an' 'er *pecked* right over.'

Peckled, *adj.* speckled.

Penny, *adj.* full of quills. 'I dunna like to ause to sell them fowls to anybody. Thaay be so *penny* you canna pluck 'em clean, try 'ow you will!'

Pens, *n.* wing-feathers; also quills. (Halliwell.) Skeat, *feather*, *pen*.

Spenser, *F. Q.*, Bk. I. cant. xi. st. 10:

'And eke the *pennes* that did his pinions bind,
Were like mayne-yards.'

Milton, *Par. L.*, Bk. VII. ver. 421 :

'but feather'd soon and fledge,
They summed their *pens*.'

Perish, *v.* to feel cold.

Perished, *adj.* pinched with cold. *Sunday School Teacher*. 'You have just read that the disciples cried: "Save, Lord, we *perish*." What does *perish* mean?' *Boys, unanimously*. 'Starven with cold!' (Tenbury, 1880.)

Peter grievous, *adj.* unreasonably aggrieved.

Phantom, *adj.* withered; weakly. Applied by mowers to bad grass.

Phleem, *n.* phlegm.

Pick, *n.* a pickaxe.

Pickings, *n.* salt encrusted at the bottom of the pans, which is broken and ground up for agricultural purposes. (Droitwich.)

Piece, *n.* (1) a field. 'The cows is in the thirteen-acre *piece*.'

(2) a slice of bread. 'I be clemmed, mother, gie I a *piece*!'

(3) contemptuous epithet. 'Er connna do much, 'er is but a poor *piece*.'

Piefinch, *n.* chaffinch.

Pikel, *n.* pitchfork.

Pinsens, *n.* pincers.

Pither, *v.* to move lightly; making a slight rustling noise. 'I 'eard them rots (rats) a-*pitherin*' about over my yud ahl night, an' I couldn't get a wink o' sleep.'

Plack, *n.* place; situation.

Plain, *adj.* unassuming; friendly in manner. 'Lady Mairy is such a *plain* lady; she come into my 'ouse, an' sits down, an' tak's the childern in 'er lap as comfortable as can be. She's as *plain* as you be, miss, every bit.'

Pleach, *v.* to lay down a hedge. O.Fr.; Cotgrave; Ray, *N. C. Words*.

Shakspeare, *Much ado about Nothing*, Act III. sc. i. l. 7:

'And bid her steal into the *pleachèd* bower.'

Plough-down, *v.* used by hop-growers. To plough the earth away from the roots before cutting them.

Plough-up, *v.* to turn back the earth after the former process.

Plump, *v.* to swell. Used in the same way as *frump*.

Pole-pitching, *v.* setting up the rows of poles in a hop-yard.

Pole-pulling, *v.* taking out the poles at the end of the season.

Poshy, *adj.* wet, or steaming.

Pot, *n.* a measure of fruit, &c., varying from eighty to ninety pounds.

Pot-basket, a square hamper holding a pot.

Pot-fruit, eating fruit, as distinguished from the rough sorts used for cider, perry, &c.

Pothery, *adj.* close; warm.

Pot-lid, *n.* a dish of stewed rabbit.

Pouk, *n.* pimple. Pronounced *paouk*. Corruption of *pock*.

Power, *n.* a great quantity. (Halliwell.)

Prill, *n.* a small stream of water.

Primmyrose, *n.* primrose.

Prise, (1) *n.* a lever. (2) *v.* to burst open with a lever. See Skeat.

Pug, *v.* (1) to pull. 'Dunna kip *puggin'* at my gownd like that, child,' 'The master's *pugged* Johnny's ears.'

(2) to pluck fowls. 'Do yǔ cahll that the waay to *pug* fowls, yǔ lazy wench? Look 'ow penny thaay be!'

(3) To draw on one's resources. 'My da'hter's ill, an' 'er 'usband's out uv work, an' thaay've nine little 'uns, thaay *pugs* me dreadful, thaay do.'

Puggy, *adj.* dirty-looking; ill-complexioned.

Pullback, *n.* drawback; hindrance.

Purgate, *n.* the pit under a grate. Same as **Ess-hole**.

Purgy, *adj.* conceited; uppish.

Püt, *v.* (1) to set out a meal. (2) To serve with food.

Püt-about, *v.* to vex, or worry. 'That upset along uv the naay-bours *püt me about* above a bit.'

Putchen, *n.* an eel-basket.

Quakers, *n.* quaking-grass.

Queece, *n.* wood-pigeon. (Abberley.)

Quice, *n.* Same as above.

Quilt, *v.* to beat.

Quilting, *n.* a beating.

Quining, *n.* the foundation of a wall. Corruption of *coigning*.

Rack, *n.* a narrow path cut through a wood; a winding-path up-hill. (Bewdley.) Halliwell, *rack* (2).

Raise-the-place, *v.* to make a disturbance. 'W'en 'e 'eard as Joe wuz gon', 'e *rose the plaayce*.'

Raisty, *adj.* rusty; rancid.

Ranald, *n.* a fox.

Rate, *n.* *Ranunculus Aquatilis*. Water ranunculus.

Reaming, *adj.* excellent. 'That's *reamin'* good aay'l, an' I dunna cah'r if I 'as another glass or two.'

Reen, *n.* last bout of a *veering* in ploughing.

Reherse, *v.* to leave a strong taste in the mouth. Fr. *rehercer*. 'Them be strong onions surelie, thaay *re'erses* ahl daay.'

Remmeddy. 'Thar's no *remmeddy*' = no help for it. 'So yŷ knaows, miss, the fust time as 'is lardship come down after my poor mon were dyud, 'e sent far mē, an' 'e says, "Well, Mrs. Paŷge," 'e says, "so you've lost yer 'usband. Well," says 'e, "thahr's no *remmeddy*."'

Right, *adj.* downright. 'Er's *right* ill this time, thahr an't no purtence about it.'

Road, *n.* fashion; manner. 'That an't the right *roād* to do it. Stop, you, an' let me shaownd yŷ.'

NOTE. 'Stop, *you*,' would have a stress on it, therefore *you* would be pronounced in full; at the end of the sentence it is contracted.

Robble, *n.* a tangle; *v.* to tangle.

Roccatée, *n.* A technical term in carpet-weaving by the handloom. When a Brussels carpet was finished, it was left on the loom until a few yards of the next piece were woven, and rolled tightly upon it, to equalise the pressure on its pile. These few yards were called a *roccatée*, but lost the name when the first piece was taken away.

Rodney, *n.* an idle, loafing fellow.

Rousle, *v.* to rouse.

Rowings, *n.* chaff, or refuse from a threshing-machine.

Ruck, (1) *n.* a fold, or crease. (2) *v.* to crease.

Rucked-up, *adj.* caught up in folds, creased.

Ruck-o'-bricks, *n.* gaol. *Prisoner ordered to pay a fine, at the Petty Sessions at Hundred House, April, 1879.* 'I 'ona paay, I'll go to the *ruck-o'-bricks* fust.'

Ruggle, *v.* to struggle, or strive with difficulties.

Ruinate, *v.* to ruin.

Ruination, *v.* ruin.

Sales, or **Seals**, *n.* saltworks. (Droitwich.) The stoves used to be locked by the excise-officers, and sealed until they came to open them, hence *seals* = *sales*.

Sallies, *n.* willow-boughs.

Sally-bed, *n.* plantation of willows grown for hop-poles, &c.

Sally-bung, *n.* a large porous bung used by cider-makers.

Sally-tree, *n.* willow.

Sam, or **Sam up**, *v.* to collect together.

Spenser, *F. Q.*, Bk. I. cant. x. st. 57:

'Now are they saints all in that citie *sam*.'

Shep. Cal. (May), l. 168:

'For what concord have light and darke *sam* ?'

Sapy, *adj.* moist; damp; soft. 'This 'ere size is that *sapy*, t'ant no sart o' use.'

Savation, *n.* saving; economy. 'Them saowing-machines is a girt *savation* o' time.'

Scabble, *v.* to rough-hew stones.

Scandert, *n.* drunkenness. (Halliwell.)

Scawt, *v.* to slip. ''E tried 'is best to git on, but 'twas that slippy 'e kep' *scawtin'* back ahl the w'ild.'

Scisserns, *n.* scissors.

Scogging, *adj.* boastful, self-important.

Scoot, *n.* a corner, or division of a field, marked off for some purpose.

Scowl-of-brow, judging by the eye instead of measuring. 'I dun knaow w'at ahl them young chaps wants allus 'a-measurin' thar wark far. Yü see that yat thahr? Well, 'e 'angs well enow, don't 'e? I püt 'im up on'y by *scowl-uv-brow*.'

Scrat, *v.* (1) to scratch. (2) To work hard. (3) To scrape together.

Scratchings, *n.* a dish composed of fat from the 'leaf' of a pig, cut up into dice, fried, and eaten, generally on toast, with pepper and salt.

Scraft, *v.* to crush with a grating sound.

Scrawl, *v.* to crawl.

Tusser, *Five Hundred Pointes of Good Husbandrie*, 499:

'If gentils be *scrawling* call magget the py.'

Scrigglings, or **Scrogglings**, *n.* apples left on the tree as worthless.

Scrimity, *adj.* stingy.

Scrobble, *v.* to scramble.

Scrouge, *v.* to crowd, or squeeze. (Halliwell.) *Teacher*. 'Boys, why don't you sit still in that corner?' 'Please 'm, we be *scrauged*' (1880).

Scruff, or **Scruff**, *n.* the back of the neck.

Soud, *v.* to rain slightly.

Scutch, *n.* couch-grass. See **Squitch**.

Seed-lepe, *n.* basket for holding seed. Late A.S. *sed-læp*. *Prompt. Parv.* Auctioneer's Catalogue, 1880.

Seedness, *n.* seed-time.

Seeds, *n.* growing clover.

Seggar, *n.* strong case of fireclay, in which china is packed in sand, to be burned in the oven.

Sennoo, *n.* sinew. *The Prompt. Parv. has cennu.*

Set, *v.* to let (of a house). 'Them be nice little 'ousen o' Pigman Graveses a' top o' the laayn; I shu'd like far ta 'ave one on 'um, but I reckon thaay be ahl *set* by now.'

Sharrod, or **Sharwood**, *n.* a young deer.

Shear-sheep, or **hog**, or **Shearling-sheep**, *n.* two-year-old sheep.

Sheed, *v.* to shed.

Sherry, *n.* a support for a gate-post.

Shet, *v.* to shut.

Shift, *v.* to move from one house to another.

Shore, *v.* to prop up. See **Wedgwood**.

Shup-pick, or **Shup-puk**, *n.* a short pitchfork.

Shurdle, *v.* to shiver. 'W'at bist *shurd'lin* thahr far? Come ta the fire an' wahrm theesen.'

Shut on = rid of.

Sib, *v.* related to. 'Thaay be *sib* ta we' = they are related to us. *Ælfric; Prompt. Parv.*

Chaucer, *Cant. Tales*, Tale of Melibœus: 'They ben but litel *sibbe* to you, and the kin of your enemies ben nigh *sibbe* to hem.'

Vision of Piers Plowman, Pass. VI. 113 (Text A):

'Bote hose is *sib* to this sustren
Is wonderliche welcomen.'

and 123:

'Merci is a mayden ther, and hath miht over hem alle,
Heo is *sib* to alle synful men.'

Sickle-hocked, *adj.* said of wheat that is too weak in the stem to stand alone.

Sidder, *adj.* tender. Applied to peas that boil well.

Sie, *v.* to strain milk. *Petty Sessions at Tenbury*, Sept., 1881. *Boy*. 'I was in the dairy 'elping mother to *sie* the milk.' *Magistrate*. 'What were you doing?' *Boy*. 'We wuz *sieing* the milk.'

Sie—Milk-sie, *n.* a fine strainer, through which milk is poured when first brought into the dairy.

Sight, *n.* a great quantity.

Sike, *v.* to sigh.

Chaucer, *Cant. Tales*, *Knightes Tale*, 2127:

'And with a sad visage he *sikéd* still.'

Franklein's *Tale*, 276:

'Aurelius ful ofte sore *siketh*.'

Vision of Piers Plowman, Pass. V. 229 (Text A):

'Then sat Sleuthe up, and *sikéde* sore.'

Simple, *adj.* ill ; weak. 'Joe's a bit better, but 'e's mighty *simple*, 'e canna stand scahrceely.'

Simple-looking, *adj.* insignificant. 'What is that tall plant in your middle flower-bed?' 'Deed, 'mum, I dunno. 'Twas give to me, but I dunna cah'r about it much, the flower's a *simple-looking* thing, ain't it?'

Sippetty, *adj.* insipid.

Skeel = **butter-skeel**, *n.* tub for washing butter. Thoresby to Ray.

Skim-dick, *n.* home-made cheese.

Slighty, *adj.* slightly made ; insecure. 'I dunna like them boughten frocks, thaay be so *slighty* !'

Sling, or **Slinget**, *n.* a narrow slip of ground.

Slip, *n.* clay for china-making in a liquid state.

Slither, *v.* to slide.

Sliving, *n.* a slip or cutting of a plant. *Prompt. Parv.*

Slother, *v.* to smear, or wipe up carelessly. 'I s'pose that gurl thinks as 'er's claned the floor! 'Er's *slothered* it over, some waay, but 'er'll 'ave ta do it agen, as sure as I stands 'ere.'

Slummaking, *adj.* awkward.

Slurry, *n.* snow and mud mixed. See **Solid**.

Smudge, *v.* to kiss.

Snift, *v.* to sniff.

Sock-cart, *n.* cart for liquid manure.

Sogging, or **Soggy**, *adj.* soaked with wet ; moist ; damp.

Ben Jonson, *Every Man out of Humour*, Act III. sect. ii. :

'The warping condition of this green and *soggy* multitude.'

Solid, (1) *adj.* solemn.

(2) *v.* to thicken, or make solid. 'The roads be nowt but slurry ; I wishes thar 'ud come a frost an' *solid* 'em a bit.'

Sords, *n.* rinds. *Prompt. Parv.*

So-say. For the *so-say* = for the name or sound of a thing.

Spadguck, *n.* sparrow. (Bewdley.)

Spaul, *v.* to splinter, or break away unevenly ; generally said of the branches of trees. Sometimes corrupted to *sporle*.

Spire, *v.* to throw up green shoots ; to grow. See **Skeat**. 'I thaowt ahl my trees waz dyud, but thaay be *spirin*' nicely now.'

Spenser, *F. Q.*, Bk. III. cant. v. st. 52 :

'Of womankind it fayrest Flowre doth *spyre*,
And beareth Frute of honour.'

Spirt, *n.* a sprout, or shoot.

Spit, *v.* to rain slightly.

Spittle, *n.* a spade.

Spittle-tree, *n.* spade-handle.

Splother, *v.* to splash. *n.* a splashing noise.

Spot, *v.* to begin to rain.

Spreader, *n.* the stick used to keep out the traces from the legs of cart horses.

Squawk, *v.* to cry out; to squeal.

Squilt, *n.* a sore place, or breaking out on the skin.

Squitch, *n.* (1) a birch twig. (2) Couch grass.

Stag, *n.* a cock-turkey two years old.

Stag-quicks, *n.* strong old thorn-*quicks* removed from a coppice or hedge to another place; thus distinguished from young *quicks*.

Starve, *v.* to be cold.

Starven, *adj.* pinched with cold. 'Alice is such a nesh little thing! W'en 'er's plaayin' with th' others in an evenin', 'er'll run into the 'ouse, an' 'er'll say, "Oh, mammy, do put I on a jacket, I be so starven!"'

Stean, or **Steen**, *n.* an earthen pan.

Spenser, *F. Q.*, Bk. VII. cant. vii. st. 42:

'Upon a huge great Earth-pot-*stean* he stood.'

Steer, *n.* starling. Sometimes *Black-steer*.

Stele, *n.* a broom-handle. *Prompt. Parv.*; Ray, *S. C. Glossary*.

Chaucer, *Cant. Tales*, Miller's Tale, 597:

'And caught the culter by the colde *stete*.'

Piers Plowman, Pass. XIX. 274 (Text B):

'A ladel . . with a longe *stete*.'

Spenser, *F. Q.*, Bk. V. cant. xii. st. 14:

'And in his hand a huge pole-axe did bear,
Whose *stete* was yron-studded, but not long.'

Stelch, *n.* a post in a cow-house to which cows are fastened.

Stive up, *v.* to confine closely.

Stived-up, or **Stiven-close**, *adj.* stifling. (Halliwell.)

Stock, *v.* to peck as a bird. See Wedgwood. 'The maggot *stocked* my 'and uncommon 'ard.'

Stop-glat, *n.* stop-gap. 'Dunna yŷ burn that thahr furzen; 't'ull do far a *stop-glat* one o' these daays.'

Storm-cock, *n.* missile-thrush.

Stub, *n.* stump of a tree. See Wedgwood.

Stub, *v.* to grub up.

Tusser, *Five Hundred Pointes of Good Husbandrie*, xxxv. 23:

'Now *stub* up the bushes.'

And xxxv. 47:

'be readie with mattock in hand
To *stub* out the bushes that noieth the land.'

Suff, *n.* drain. See Wedgwood under *Soak*. Ray, *N. C. Glossary*.

Suity, *adj.* level; even.

Sup, (1) *n.* a drop. 'Oōna thee 'ave a *sup* a cider, Tom?'

(2) *v.* to swallow. '*Sup* up the physick, child, an' dunna 'ivver-
'ovver over it like that!'

(3) *v.* to supply with supper. 'Jem went out last night to *sup*
the cows.'

Swarm, *v.* to climb. See Wedgwood.

Swelth, *n.* a swelling.

Swig, *v.* to sway. 'Them trees did *swig* about i' the wind above-
a-bit.'

Swingle, *n.* a swing. *v.* to swing.

Swither, *n.* perspiration.

Tabber, *v.* to make a drumming noise. See Wedgwood under *Tabor*.
Gamekeeper. 'Go you up ta the top carner of the copy, Bill, an'
tabber a the big oak till I cahls to 'ee.'

Nahum ii. 7, 'The voice of doves *tabering* upon their breasts.'

Tack, *n.* (1) hired pasture for cattle.

(2) A flavour. 'The aay'l (ale) 'as a *tack* a the barrel.'

Tail-cratch, *n.* the rack at the back of waggons for holding hay, &c.

Taking. To be in a taking = provoked, or angry.

Tallat, *n.* a hayloft.

Tally, *n.* a piece of wood on which the work of each hop-picker is
measured, by means of notches.

Tally-man, *n.* the man who measures the hops in a bushel basket.

Tang, *v.* to call bees together (when swarming) by making a noise.

Teart, *adj.* sharp; painful. 'That cider a yourn's mighty *teart*,
maūster.' 'The wind's *teart* this marnin', an' no mistake!' 'I run
a pikel into my fūt, 'twas mighty *teart*.'

Ted, *v.* to spread hay. See Skeat; Ray, *N. C. Glossary*.

Tusser, *Five Hundred Pointes of Good Husbandrie*, liv. 1:

'Go sirs and away
To *tedd* and make hay.'

Teem, *v.* to pour out. 'Canna yū drink yer tay, lad? *Teem* it into
the sahrceer (saucer) then.'

Teg, *n.* a sheep of a year old.

Tempest, *n.* a thunderstorm. 'My! dunna it look black! us 'ull
'ave *tempest* afore night surelie!'

Terrify, *v.* to torment; to puzzle. 'E canna get a wink a slip uv a night; 'is cough is *terrifyin*.' 'Yä never knaows 'ow to please 'im, 'e grum'les if yū goes out, an' 'e canna bar yū to stop at 'ome: it's *terrifyin* to knaow what to do far the best.'

Thack, (1) *n.* thatch. (2) *v.* to thatch. Ray, *N. C. Glossary*.

Tusser, *Five Hundred Pointes of Good Husbandrie*, liii. 12:

'With whinnes or with furzes thy houel renew,
 as also for *thacke*.'

Theave, *n.* a yearling ewe. (Ray.) 'Flock of crossbred sheep, comprising 108 fat and meaty shear-hogs and *theaves*.' Auctioneer's Catalogue, 1879.

Thick, *adj.* intimate.

Thill-'arse, or **Thiller**, *n.* the shaft horse. *Prompt. Parv.*; Auctioneer's Catalogue, 1880.

Shakspeare, *Merchant of Venice*, Act II. sc. ii.: 'Lord, what a beard hast thou got! thou hast more hair on thy chin than Dobbin my *thill-horse* has on his tail!' (*Steeven's Edition*.)

Tusser, *Five Hundred Pointes of Good Husbandrie*:

'With collar and harness for *thiller* and all.'

Thrave, *n.* bundle of straw of twenty-four boltings. Ray, *N. C. Glossary*.

Thresh, *n.* the lower part of a horse's hoofs.

Thribble, *adj.* threefold. 'The b'ys nowadaays is that fast, thaay'll sahce (sauce) a man *thribble* thar age' (1878).

Throstle, *n.* a thrush.

Thumb-piece, *n.* a piece of bread with cheese or meat, held between the thumb and finger.'

Tice, *v.* to entice. 'I wish I 'ad never sot eyes o' that Priddy (Preedy). 'E's *ticed* Jem awaay from 'is plaice with 'is taayl's about sodgerin'!

Tid, *adj.* tender; nice; fanciful. 'Father 'ödna like far Susy to go w'ahr 'er 'ödna be used kind, 'er's such a *tid* little thing.'

Tiddle, (1) *v. a.* to fuss, or fidget; to tend carefully. (2) *v. n.* to be carefully tended.

'If 'er 'adna bothered 'erself about that good-far-nothin' b'y, 'er'd a bin alive now, an' 'er might a *tiddled* along a good bit.'

'The parson 'e give mē a slivin' a that ge-rai-num, an I *tiddled* uv 'im ahl the winter, an' I got mē a tidy tree now, yū see.'

Tiddling, *n.* a lamb brought up by hand.

Tiddy, *adj.* small; tiny. 'Miss —— 'as got such a lovely watch, 'tis such a *tiddy* little thing, nat much bigger nur a penny-piece.'

Tiddy white-throat, *n.* the white-throat.

Tidy, *adj.* seasonable ; appropriate ; well in health ; of good quality.
 'E's a tidy waay to walk afore 'e gets oai'm.' 'How be you ta-daay?' 'Pretty tidy.' 'The 'oss looks pretty tidy.'

Tusser, *Five Hundred Pointes of Good Husbandrie*, lvii. 22 :

'If weather be faire, and tidie thy graine.'

Tind, or **Teend**, *v.* to kindle. See Skeat.

Wycliff, *New Test.*, Matt. v. 15 : 'Ne me *teendith* not a lanterne and puttith it under a bushel.'

Spenser, *Virgil's Gnat* :

———— 'go, cursed damoseles,
 Whose bridal torches foul Erynnis *tynde*.'

Tissick, (1) *n.* a hacking cough.

(2) *v.* to cough. 'Grannie, 'er kips *tissickin*' ahl the w'ild.'

Topping and Tailing, trimming turnips, &c., performed by women in the autumn.

Torril, *n.* an expression of contempt. 'Bill Porter's come out a prison, is 'e? Well, it 'oona be long afore 'e's back, I should saay? 'E's a *torril*, 'e is.' 'Them taters is *torril*-looking things.'

Tosty-ball, *n.* cowslip-ball. See Wedgwood under *Toss*.

Tot, *n.* a small mug ; also jar, such as ointment is put into. *Child at School-treat*. 'Be we to 'ave more tea afore we goes oai'm? Why, us 'ave sent our *tots* back!'

Totterdy, *adj.* infirm. 'I've 'ad the rheumatics very bad this three wik, an' I be that *totterdy* I canna 'ardly scrawl.'

Towse, *n.* to worry ; tease ; pull about. See Wedgwood.

Traipse, *v.* to tread in ; to tramp. See Wedgwood.

Trees, *n.* plants grown in pots.

Trig, *n.* a mark in the ground. *Gardener*. 'S'pose I püts a *trig* in this carner, miss? It 'ull be 'andy far you to mark the tennis ground from.'

Trow, *n.* a boat of eighty tons, used on the Severn.

Trowse, *n.* any stuff used for making hedges.

Tump, *n.* a mound, or hillock.

Turmits, *n.* turnips.

Turn, to get the turn ; to pass the crisis. 'I thaowt 'er mun die sure*lie*, but 'er's got *the turn* on it nows.' 'My 'usband 'adna no work ahl the winter, an' we wuz pinched, and wuz forced to run in debt far bread an' coals, an' such ; and it 'ull tak we a long time to get *the turn* on it.'

Turn-again-gentleman, *n.* the Turk's cap lily.

Tush, *v.* to draw a heavy weight, as of timber, &c.

Twinny'-uns, *n.* applied to fruit or flowers, &c., of which two have grown on one stalk, or in one shell.

Ugly, *adj.* inconvenient. 'An ugly country' = bad roads. 'How do you manage to get over that stile in your garden, Mrs. Harris? It must be very awkward for you, as you are so lame?' 'Tis a ugly stile, sure*lie*, but I gits over 'im some 'ow. I pulls out the uvvermost raay'l yû knaows, and it an't so bad then.'

Ugly-fat, *n.* a double chin. 'Asn't the baby got a t'rrible ugly-fat?'

Undeniable, *adj.* excellent; good. 'E's an undeniable gardener.'

Unforbidden, *adj.* disobedient. 'I shall tell the maäster to beat them childern, thaay be so *unforbidden*; speakin' an't no sart o' use.'

Unked, *adj.* awkward; also lonely; miserable. 'The missis took a dill a paayns uv our 'Becca, but 'er couldna never larn 'er to be tidy. 'Er sims reg'lar *unked*, 'er do.' 'Thaay lives right up a' the top o' the common, w'ahr thahr an't no other 'ousen any w'ahr near. 'Tis a *unked* sart uv a place.'

Unkind, *adj.* bad; unfavourable. 'The banes (beans) dunna graow one bit, thaay sims so *unkind*.'

Unsuity, *adj.* uneven; unequal.

Upon-times = occasionally.

Uprit, *adj.* upright.

Upset, *n.* a quarrel, or disagreeable occasion.

Urchin, *n.* a hedgehog. See Wedgwood.

Romaunt of the Rose, 3135:

'Like sharp *urchons* his haire was grow.'

Shakspere, *Titus Andronicus*, Act II. sc. iii.:

'Ten thousand swelling toads, as many *urchins*.'

Utis, *n.* noise; confusion. Corruption of *Utas*.

Shakspere, 2 *Henry IV.*, Act II. sc. iv.:

'By the mass, here will be old *utis*!'

Uvvermost, *prep.* uppermost; *overmost*.

Veering, *n.* a certain number of ridges or furrows in a ploughed field.

Ventur'some, *adj.* adventurous.

Void, *adj.* raw. 'Our Bill's 'ad the most awful'est broken chilblains as ever wuz. But Mrs. James 'er give me a tot o' stuff as did 'um a sight o' good. Thahr's on'y one plaayce about as big as a pin's 'ed that's *void* now.' An empty house is always said to be *void*.

Voylet, *n.* a violet.

Wady, *adj.* weary; tedious.

Waller, *n.* salt-makers. Cf. M.E. *wallen*, to boil.

Wallowish, *adj.* nauseous. See Wedgwood. 'The doctor's give me

some stuff as is downright *wallowish*; but I'm bound to saay it 'ave done mē a power o' good.'

Wally, or Wolly, *n.* rows into which hay is raked.

Want, *n.* a mole. Pronounced *öönt*.

Waps, *n.* wasp.

Warm, *v.* to beat. 'Let me catch 'ee doin' that agen; I'll *wahrm* yū!'

Warmship, *n.* warmth. 'Thahr's a dill a *wahrmship* i' my owd shahl (shawl).'

Wastril, *n.* an idle fellow.

Water-waggits, *n.* water-wagtail.

Watty-handed, *adj.* left-handed.

Wauve, (1) *v.* to cover over. Ray, *N. C. Glossary*. 'Thee'd best *wauve* over that rick wi' a tarpaulin! thahr'll be tempest to-night.'

(2) To lean over. 'I were i' the tallat an' 'eard um talkin'! so thinks I, thaay binna ater no good: an' I just *wauves* over to 'ear what thaay said!'

Weep, *v.* to run as a sore does.

Well-ended, *adj.* said of crops safely carried.

Welly, *adv.* nearly. 'Gie I a mouthful a fittle, I be *welly* clemmed.'

Werrit, or Worrit, *v.* to worry. See Wedgwood. 'A *werrit*' is often used when speaking of persons of anxious temperament.

What-for. 'I'll give yū *w'at-far*!' a familiar phrase, meaning, *I'll give you something to cry for*.

Whiffle, *v.* to change about from one quarter to another (of the wind). See Skeat.

Whiffling, *adj.* changeable.

Whimmy, *adj.* full of whims.

Whippit, *n.* a mongrel dog.

Whosen, *pron.* whose.

Wicken, *n.* a small basket in which salt is packed. (Droitwich.)

Wimmy, *adj.* giddy; having a swimming in the head.

Wim-wam, *n.* a giddiness; a new-fangled thing.

Windle-straw, *n.* anything light and easily blown about.

Wink-a-pip, *adj.* imperfect.

Local proverb: 'A *wink-a-pip* blaow
Gives apples enaow.'

Wire, *v.* to make tendrils. 'The 'ops is *wierin*' ahl over the ground.

Wires, *n.* the tendrils of the hop plant.

Wise, *v.* to slip in or out. 'The lad *wised* out a the back door

when 'e thowt as none on us sid 'im.' 'Er pük up the money, an wised it inta 'er pocket, *that sly*, you'd a thaowt er'd stole it.'

Wisket, *n.* a strong open basket. Ray, *N. C. Glossary*.

Withy, *n.* osier.

Witty-tree, *n.* mountain-ash.

Wobbling, selling beer, &c. without a license. *Worcester Journal*, May 3, 1879: 'A case of *wobbling* against Elisha Allen came before the magistrates this morning.' *Birmingham Post*, July 30, 1880: 'Case of *wobbling*.'

Woffle, *v.* to glide along swiftly. 'Them traayns *woffles* along so as you 'ödn't scahrsley believe it.'

Wretch, *n.* an expression of endearment or sympathy. Pronounced *wratch*. *Old woman to young master*: 'An' 'ow is the missis to-daay, poor *wratch*?'

Shakspere, *Romeo and Juliet*, Act I. sc. iii. l. 46: 'The pretty *wretch* left crying, and said *aye*.'

Othello, Act III. sc. iii. l. 90: 'Excellent *wretch*! Perdition catch my soul, but I do love thee!'

Wum, *n.* home. *Kidderminster weaver to his dog*: 'Thee canna come along this time. *Wum it*, lad!' Sometimes *oaiim* and *woaiim* are used.

Yander, *prep.* yonder. *Workman to his wife, in the Habberly Valley*, June, 1880. 'Come up that thahr bonk do! What's the good a settin' 'ere? Why bless yü, from the other side o' *yander*, you cun see the Lard knows w'ahr!'

Yarb, *n.* Herb.

Yarby-tea, *n.* a decoction of herbs.

Yat, *n.* gate. *Prompt. Parv.*

Chaucer, *Cant. Tales*, Clerkes Tale, 957:

'But with glad cheere to the *yate* is went.'

Spenser, *Shep. Cal.* (May):

'When I am abroad,

Sperre the *yate* fast for fear of fraud.'

Yed, or **Yud**, *n.* head.

Yoe, *n.* a ewe.

Yox, *v.* to cough, or spit up. 'Our Polly swallow'd a pin, an' I thaowt 'er'd a died sure-*lie*, but 'er *yoxed* it up after a bit.

Chaucer, *Cant. Tales*, Reeves Tale, 231:

'He *yoxeth*, and he speketh through the nose.'

Yum, *n.* hymn.

Yumbuk, *n.* hymnbook.

ADDENDA.

Bist, *n.* beast, applied solely to cattle.

Brenth, *n.* Breadth.

Bumble-bee, *n.* the large field-bee.

Dog-daisy, *n.* *Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*. Ox-eye daisy.

False, *adj.* always used for deceitful.

Grip, *n.* a small gutter. Ray.

Ivvy, *n.* ivy.

Like one o'clock = easily and quickly accomplished.

Maid, (1) *n.* the wooden instrument used by laundresses, commonly known as a *dolly*.

(2) *v.* to use the above.

Maiding-tub, *v.* the tub in which clothes are *maided*.

Mastie-dog, *n.* mastiff.

Maythen, *n.* *Matricaria Chamomilla*, wild chamomile.

Mourn, *v.* to make a low moaning noise.

Notice, — to take notice of, is to pay attention. 'This gardener sims to tak' a dill more notice than th' other 'un wuz use to do. The gardin looks a sight tidier now.'

Off, *prep.* from.

Off 'is-yud, — out of his mind.

Pinner, *n.* pinafore.

Pöön, *v.* to pound, or knock.

Prong, *n.* a table fork.

Pudlock, *n.* a puddle. (Kidderminster.)

Stank, *v.* to dam up a stream. Cf. Skeat, *stank* under *stagnate*.

Stöök, *n.* a handle of a cup, &c. Cf. *Stowk*, Ray's *N. C. Words*.
Housemaid: 'Please, 'm, I took 'old o' the jug, an' the *stook* come off in my 'and.' (1882.)

Tetchy, *adj.* fretful. See Skeat, under *Tack*.

Think-on, *v.* to remember.

Widder, *v.* to tremble, shiver, or totter. Cf. *Whither*, in *A Bran New Wark*.

LOCAL PROVERBS.

SAYINGS RELATING TO THE SEASONS AND THE WEATHER.

Who in January sows oats
Gets gold and groats.

If St. Paul be fine and clear,
It betides a happy year,
But if it chance to snow or rain,
Dear will be all sorts of grain.

Much February snow
A fine summer doth show.

If February calends be summerly gay,
'Twill be winterly weather in the calends of May.

To St. Valentine the spring is a neighbour.

By Valentine's day every good goose should lay;
But by David and Chad both good and bad.

In the quarter from which the wind blows on Candlemas day, it will remain till May.

Muddy water in March, muddy water every month of the year.

Never come March, never come winter.

March rain spoils more than clothes.

On David and Chad
Sow peas good or bad.

March is said to borrow *ten days* of April.

If it thunder on All Fool's day,
It brings good crops of grass and hay.

If it rain on Good Friday or Easter Day,
'Twill be a good year of grass, but a sorrowful year of hay.

A cold April the barn will fill.

The April flood carries away the frog and his brood.

A cold May is kind.

Shear your sheep in May, and shear them all away.

Mist in May and heat in June
Will bring the harvest very soon.

Cut thistles in May
 They grow in a day.
 Cut them in June
 That is too soon.
 Cut them in July
 Then they will die.

Rain on the 8th of June foretells a wet harvest.

The cuckoo is never heard before Tenbury fair (April 20), or after Pershore fair (July 26).

Till James's day is come and gone,
 There may be hops, and there may be none.

A sunny Christmas Day is a sign of incendiary fires.

Better have a new-laid egg at Christmas than a calf at Easter.

The winter's thunder is a rich man's death and a poor man's wonder.

If the cock moult before the hen,
 We shall have winter through thick and thin;
 But if the hen moult before the cock,
 We shall have winter as hard as a block.

Hail brings frost in its tail.

A dry summer never made a dear peck.

Look for summer on the top of an oak tree.

When elum leaves are as big as a farden,
 It's time to plant kidney beans in the garden.

Or,
 When elum leaves are as big as a shillin',
 It's time to plant kidney beans if you're willin';
 When elum leaves are as big as a penny,
 You must plant kidney beans if you mean to have any.

A good year of kidney beans, a good year of hops.

PROVERBS ON GENERAL SUBJECTS.

If you are born under a threepenny planet you'll never be worth fourpence (Swift's *Polite Conversations*).

A lowing cow soon forgets her calf.

The early bird gets the late one's breakfast.

Solomon's wise, loath to go to bed, but ten times loather to rise.

A nimble ninepence is better than a sleepy shilling.

A wink-a-pip blow
Brings apples enow.

One mend-fault is worth twenty spy-faults.

Twenty young,
Thirty strong,
Forty wit,
Or never none.

It's a poor hen that can't *scrat* for one chick.

Dilly-dally brings night as soon as Hurry-scurry.

It is proverbial that the Worcester ladies are 'Poor, proud, and pretty.' That the accusation of pride may be brought against the Worcestershire people generally is proved by their saying that 'Our's is the only county that can produce everything necessary for its own consumption.'

'It shines like Worcester against Gloucester' is a very old saying.

A stone church, a wooden steeple,
A drunken parson, a wicked people.

is a proverb at Tibberton.

Sell wheat and buy rye,
Say the bells of Tenbury.

All about Malvern Hill,
A man may live as long as he will.

When Bredon Hill puts on its hat,
Ye men of the vale, beware of that.

WORCESTERSHIRE SONG.

Come ahl you lads an' lasses, an' a story you shall 'ear,
 Consarnin' of the pretty gurls as lives in 'Ööstershèr:
 Thar cheeks is like the roses, thaay be lovely, gaay, an' fèr,
 An' thar is no gurls in England, like the gurls uv 'Ööstershèr,

Chorus.—Thaay be 'ansome, thaay be charmin' (or comely),
 Thaay be lovely, gaay, an' fèr,
 An' the prettiest gurls in England,
 Is the gurls uv 'Ööstershèr.

Thraough England, an' Ireland, an' Scotland I 'a bin,
 An' over the Welsh mountains w'ar beauty I 'a sin;
 But uv ahl the lasses in the world, I solemnly declar,
 Thar's none that tak's my fancy like the gurls uv 'Ööstershèr.

Chorus.—Thaay be, &c.

Thar's Jane, an' Sall, an' lovely Ann, an' pretty Mary too,
 Thar's Betsey, an' Amelia, an' bonny black-eyed Sue,
 Meria, an' Eliza, an' Kitty too so fèr.
 May 'appiness attend the pretty gurls uv 'Ööstershèr.

Chorus.—Thaay be, &c.

Some can brew, and some can baake, an' some can spin an' sew,
 And some can knit, an' some can sing while plaitin' uv thar straw,
 Some can tie a velvet band around thar pretty 'air;
 Sure you never saw such lasses as the gurls uv 'Ööstershèr.

Chorus.—Thaay be, &c.

Some can use the fark an' raayk, an' some can drive the plough,
 An' some can sing like nightinggells while milkin' uv thar cow,
 An' some can dance the 'arnpipe when thaay goes to Parshur fàr;
 What 'ansome, charmin' creeturs are the gurls uv 'Ööstershèr.

Chorus.—Thaay be, &c.

Be'old the Farmer's dahters, with thar ring-ullets an' veils,
 An' a 'airy muff tied roun' thar necks, jus' like a donkey's tail,
 Silk gloves, an' dandy ribbuns, to tie up thar lovely 'air;
 What 'ansome, charmin' creeturs are the gurls uv 'Ööstershèr.

Chorus.—Thaay be, &c.

You buxum blades uv England, if you wish to chainge yer life,
 Praay 'asten into 'Ööstershèr, an' choose yerself a wife;
 An' when yer jined in wedlock's band, a bumper fill sa clear,
 An' drink a 'ealth to the charmin', bloomin' gurls uv 'Ööstershèr.

Chorus.—Thaay be, &c.

NOTE.—In speaking of the counties generally, a decided emphasis is laid on the *i* of *shire*; but in this song, to suit the exigencies of rhyme or rhythm, the final syllable in each verse is *shèr*.

A GLOSSARY
OF
WORDS AND PHRASES
USED IN
S.E. WORCESTERSHIRE

TOGETHER WITH SOME OF THE
Sayings, Customs, Superstitions, Charms, &c.

COMMON IN THAT DISTRICT.

BY JESSE SALISBURY.

London:
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—
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ERRATA.

Page 19, line 17 from top, *read*, 'W'en 'er wuz a yòung un,' &c.

„ 31, „ 1 „ „ „ 'the ears, snout,' &c.

„ 35, „ 17 „ bottom „ 'the final s in *slawns*,' &c.

„ 37, „ 13 „ top, „ 'the bar to which the shafts of a double
shafted waggon are attached.'

„ 37, „ 2 „ bottom „ 'I sh'll get in un' sit by the fire.'

„ 44, „ 14 „ „ „ 'when in company, and speaking of a person
who is present.'

PREFACE.

THIS attempt to compile a Glossary of Words and Phrases used in South-East Worcestershire (the district around Evesham and Pershore), owes its origin, principally, to a perusal of Mrs. Chamberlain's interesting 'Glossary of West Worcestershire Words,' published by the English Dialect Society in 1882.

Being a native of the district above indicated, and an enthusiastic lover of everything relating to the county of Worcester, I had for some years previously, been collecting scraps and fragments concerning the locality, but with no definite object in view; and I felt greatly delighted when I recognised in Mrs. Chamberlain's work, many of the old home words, sayings, and customs, which were so familiar to me in my younger days; but which had in many instances become almost forgotten.

Although in the same county, I found that there were many words used in our locality which were not in use in West Worcestershire, and so not included in Mrs. Chamberlain's book. I therefore began systematically to note down all such words that I could think of, or that I otherwise met with; with the result that I am now able to submit to all who are interested in the subject of local dialects, and to the public generally, the present collection of South-East Worcestershire Words and Phrases.

In doing so, I trust that I am contributing a minute quota of quaint (and possibly some few peculiar) words, towards the formation of a work which would be of the greatest interest and utility, viz., a complete Glossary of Local Words, Sayings, and Phrases used in every district in England. The increased, and still increasing facilities for intercommunication, together with the advance of education, are, however, daily enhancing the

difficulty of accomplishing such a task; and should it be long deferred, it will, it is to be feared, become a matter of absolute impossibility.

Many words are included in the following pages, which are neither peculiar to the district nor yet to the county, but which are not exactly common. These I decided to retain, as being useful for purposes of comparison; also that students of dialect might be assisted (however slightly), in ascertaining to what extent, and in what localities, such words are current.

In instances in which Mrs. Chamberlain has, in her glossary, employed illustrative phrases, I have generally adopted them; making such alterations only, as were necessary to adapt them to this locality. The difference in the dialect of the two districts (the W. and the S.E.) can thus be the more readily observed, for which reason, I trust I may be pardoned for the liberty I have taken.

It was originally intended that this fragment should have been published by the English Dialect Society, by whom much has already been done in the direction above indicated, and at whose disposal I had placed my MS.; but owing to various causes, its publication was from time to time deferred, until I at length decided to issue it myself, as it now appears.

Whilst in the hands of the above Society, my MS. was submitted by the Secretary to the inspection of Professor Skeat, to whom I am indebted for some important suggestions.

To the Rev. Canon Lawson, author of 'Upton Words and Phrases,' (E.D.S., 1884), I desire to express my sincere thanks for the kindly interest he has taken in my work, and for a copy of 'Notes of Quaint Words and Sayings in the Dialect of South Worcestershire,' by A. Porson, M.A., the perusal of which brought to my mind some words and sayings that had escaped my memory.

To Mr. George Davies, I am greatly indebted for various suggestions, many of which I have been able to adopt, although they did not reach me until the work was in the printer's hands; but more particularly for his great assistance in that portion

which relates to Shakespeare (of whose writings he is an enthusiastic student). Indeed, it was at his suggestion only, that I decided to include the Shakespeare list.

As it forms in my memory a kind of connecting link between the old time and the present, I may mention, that I had the pleasure (many years ago), of knowing Mr. Davies's grandfather (Mr. John Davies, of Little Comberton), and I do not think I ever met with another man who could relate so many local stories, or who could sing so many traditional old songs.*

For the purpose of illustrating some of the peculiarities of our dialect, I have (in addition to the phrases already referred to), introduced a few local sayings and stories, and in these my dear niece Agnes, has assisted me very materially; giving me hints as to some of the idiomatic phrases, in cases in which my long absence from the district, had caused my memory to become slightly defective. She has also contributed some of the 'Remedies,' &c., which are here included; for all of which I thank her most heartily.

To her father (my beloved brother), who still resides in our village, I am indebted for several words and sayings; and more particularly for many of the Field Names, of which a list is included in this work. I therefore tender him my warmest thanks, and trust that he will discover in these pages, pleasant reminiscences, of the days 'when we were boys together.'

JESSE SALISBURY.

(Of Little Comberton.)

London, 1893.

* Some were exceedingly quaint, and I venture to introduce here the following verse of one which lingers in my memory, but which I have never met with in print. It is probably familiar to students of Old Song literature. Being a portion of what is supposed to be a 'Rag-man's' song, the reader will kindly excuse the indelicacy of its allusions.

'Old rags, old jags, old bodies of stays;
Bring them to me; I will them appraise;
Nitty, or lousey, or buggy beside,
Up o' my back, and away they shall ride.'

CONJUGATIONS OF VERBS, &c.

ũ (*u* as in cut), òò (*oo* as in wool).

TO BE.

Present.

Singular.

Plural.

I be.

We be.

Thee bist.

You be.

'E or 'er is.

Thaay be.

Past.

I wuz.

We wuz.

Thee wust.

You wuz.

'E wuz.

Thaay wuz.

Negative (present).

I byunt.

We byunt.

Thee bissent.

You byunt.

'E yunt.

Thaay byunt.

Negative (past).

I wuzzent, or wornt.

We wuzzent, or wornt.

Thee wussent.

You wuzzent, or wornt.

'E wuzzent, or wornt.

Thaay wuzzent, or wornt.

Interrog. (present).

Be *I* ? or Be *e* ?

Be *we* ? or Be *us* ?

Bist *thee* ?

Be *you* ? or be *yũ* ?

Is 'e ? or Is *ũ* ? *

Be *thaay* ? or be 'um ?

Interrog. (past).

Wuz *I* ?

Wuz *wè* ? or *wũz-us* ?

Wust *thee* ?

Wuz *yòu* ? or *wũz yũ* ?

Wuz 'e ?

Wuz *thàay* ? or *wũz um* ?

* The words printed in italics are strongly accented.

Interrog. Neg. (present).

Byunt I?	Byunt us?
Bissent thee?	Byunt <i>you</i> ? or <i>byunt</i> yŭ?
Yunt 'e? or yunt ũ?	Byunt <i>thaay</i> ? or <i>byunt</i> 'um?

Interrog. Neg. (past).

Wuzzent I?	Wuzzent <i>we</i> ? or <i>wuzzent</i> us?
Wussent <i>thee</i> ? or <i>wussent</i> ?	Wuzzent <i>you</i> ? or <i>wuzzent</i> yŭ?
Wuzzent 'e? or <i>wuzzent</i> ũ?	Wuzzent <i>thaay</i> ? or <i>wuzzent</i> 'um?

TO HAVE.

Present.

I 'ave, or 'a.	We 'ave or 'a.
Thee 'ast.	You 'ave or 'a.
'E 'ave, or 'a.	Thaay 'ave, or 'a.

Past.

I 'ad.	We 'ad.
Thee 'adst.	You 'ad.
'E 'ad.	Thaay 'ad.

Negative (present).

I 'ant, or 'aint.	We 'ant, or 'aint.
Thee 'assn't.	You 'ant or 'aint.
'E 'ant or aint.	Thaay 'ant or 'aint.

Negative (past).

I 'adn't.	We 'adn't.
Thee 'adn'st.	You 'adn't.
'E 'adn't.	Thaay 'adn't.

Interrog. (present).

'Ave I? or 'ave e?	'Ave <i>we</i> ? or 'ave us?
'Ast <i>thee</i> ? or 'ast?	'Ave <i>you</i> ? or 'ave yŭ?
'Uv 'e? or 'ave ũ?	'Uv <i>thaay</i> ? or 'ave 'um?

Interrog. (past).

'Ad I? or 'ad e?	'Ad <i>we</i> ? or 'ad us?
'Adst <i>thee</i> ? or 'adst?	'Ad <i>you</i> ? or 'ad yŭ?
'Ad 'e? or 'Ad ũ?	'Ad <i>thaay</i> ? or 'ad 'um?

Interrog. Neg. (present).

'An't I ? or 'an't e ?	'An't we ? or 'an't us ?
'Assn't thee ? or 'Assn't ?	'An't you ? or 'an't yū ?
'An't 'e ? or 'an't ũ ?	'An't thaay ? or 'an't um ?

Interrog. Neg. (past).

'Adn't I ? or 'a'dn't e ?	'Adn't we ? or 'adn't us ?
'Adn'st thee ? or 'adns't ?	'Adn't you ? or 'adn't yū ?
'Adn't 'e ? or 'adn't ũ ?	'Adn't thaay ? or 'adn't um ?

SHALL.

I sholl.	We sholl.
Thee shot.	You sholl.
'E sholl.	Thaay sholl.
I shūd, or I shood.	We shūd, or we shood.
Thee shūdst, or thee shoodst.	You shūd, or you shood.
'E shūd, or 'E shööd.	Thaay shūd, or thaay shood.

Negative.

I shaunt.	We shaunt.
Thee shotn't.	You shaunt.
'E shaunt.	Thaay shaunt.
I shöödn't.	We shoodn't.
Thee shoodn'st.	You shoodn't.
'E shoodn't.	Thaay shoodn't.

Interrogative.

Sholl I, or sholl e ?	Sholl we ? or sholl us ?
Shot ? or shot thee ?	Sholl you ? or sholl yū ?
Sholl 'e ? or sholl ũ ?	Sholl thaay ? or sholl um ?

Interrog. Neg.

Shaunt I ? or shaunt e ?	Shaunt we ? or shaunt us ?
Shotn't ? or shotn't thee ?	Shaunt you ? or shaunt yū ?
Shaunt 'e ? or shaunt ũ ?	Shaunt thaay ? or shaunt um ?

WILL.

I 'ööl.	We 'ööl.
Thee ööt.	You 'ööl.
'E 'ööl.	Thaay 'ööl.

I 'òðd.
Thee 'òððst.
'E 'òðd.

We 'òðd.
You 'òðd.
Thaay 'òðd.

Negative.

I wunt.
Thee òðtn't.
'E wunt.

We wunt.
You wunt.
Thay wunt.

Interrogative.

'Òðl I ? or òðl e ?
'Òðt thee ? or òðt ?
'Òðl 'e ? or òðl ũ ?

'Òðl we ? or òðl us ?
'Òðl you ? or 'òðl yŭ ?
'Òðl thaay ? or òðl um ?

Interrog. Neg.

Wunt I ? or wunt e ?
'Òðtn't thee ? or òðtn't ?
Wunt 'e ? or wunt yŭ ?

Wunt we ? or wunt us ?
Wunt yŭ ? or wunt yŭ ?
Wunt thaay ? or wunt um ?

CAN.

I con.
Thee const.
'E con.

We con.
You con.
Thaay con.

Negative.

I caunt.
Thee cosn't.
'E caunt.

We caunt.
You caunt.
Thaay caunt.

Interrogative.

·Cun I ? or con e ?
Cun'st thee ? or const ?
·Cun 'e ? or con ũ ?

Cun we ? or con us ?
Cun you ? or con yŭ ?
Cun thaay ? or con um ?

Interrog. Neg.

·Caunt I ? or caunt e ?
Cosn't thee ? or cosn't ?
·Caunt 'e ? or caunt ũ ?

Caunt we ? or caunt us ?
Caunt you ? or caunt yŭ ?
Caunt thaay ? or caunt um ?

GLOSSARY

OF

S. E. WORCESTERSHIRE WORDS.

- A**, *v.* to have, present and imperative moods. 'I *a* bin a wäterin' the flowers.' *I have been watering the flowers.* 'A done ðõt!' *Have done, will you!*
- A**, *pron.* he; she; it. 'Where is *a*?' 'There *a* comes.' (The pronunciation of the *a* in this instance is like *u* in but.)
- A**, *prep.* in; on; as abed for *in* bed, atop for *on* the top. 'Er's a bed mighty bad, uv a bwile *a* top uv 'er yud.'
- Abear**, *v.* to endure. 'I caunt *abear* the sight on 'im.' 'E caunt *abear* to be lofft (laughed) at.'
- Above-a-bit**, *adverbial phrase*, extremely. 'Thase 'ere bad times werrits me *above-a-bit*, thay dðös; I don't knaow what to do no more nur the dyud.'
- Acaowd**, *adj.* cold. 'Be yer 'onds *acaowd*? come ether an' warm um.'
- According** (pronounced *accardin'*) *adv.* in comparison with. 'It's as much bigger *accardin'* as my fut is nur that there young un's.' *It is as much larger comparatively, as my foot is than that child's.*
- Ack**, *v.* to hoe potatoes for the first time.
- Afore**, *prep.* before. 'Come un see us *afore* yũ gwuz away.'
- After-math** or **Arter-math**, *n.* the second crop of hay from one field in the same season.
- Agate**, *v.* going on. 'What's *agate* now?'
- Ails**, *n.* barley-beards.
- Aim**, *v.* to attempt; to endeavour; to intend. 'Er *aimed* to pick it up, but it wus too 'eavy fur 'er to 'eft.'
- Aizac**, *n.* a small bird which builds its nest in the grass on the banks of hedges. Perhaps a corruption of *Haysuck*. The Haybird.
- Akere**, *v.* look here; or, come here.

All-as-is. All that remains. 'The pot's pretty nigh empty, but I'll gi' yū *all-as-is*.

All-as-one. All the same. 'Thee cunst gōō ar stop, Bill; it's *all-as-one*.'

Ally or **White Al**, *n.* a white marble (much prized by boys).

Anant, *prep.* opposite. 'Put them there faggits down *anant* the door.'

Aowf (Oaf) *n.* a foolish or silly person.

Apern or **Apun**, *n.* an apron; the diaphragm or midriff of a pig.

Arms, *n.* axles of a cart or waggon.

Arse of a waggon or **cart**, the hinder-part.

Askew, *adv.* out of shape; twisted.

Aslat or **Az-lit**, *n.* the liver, lungs, heart, &c., of a pig. (Not very common in this district.)

Assud or **Arseud**, *adj.* contrary. (*Arseward*.)

Assud-backuds, *adj.* hind-before.

Athattens, *adv.* in that way. 'Thee artst to be ashum'd o' thee-self tū byut (beat) the bwoy *athattens*; yū great lungeous bagger.'

Athissens, *adv.* in this way. 'That yunt the way to do it; do it *athissens*.'

Atternone-folks, *n.* people who are in the habit of beginning work late in the day.

Awhile = spare time; 'I cawnt *awhile*,' means 'I cannot spare the time.'

Away-you-shuts = start off.

Aw-puck, *n.* the will-o'-the-wisp.

Axe-tree = axle-tree.

Backen, *v.* to keep back. 'This caowd weather 'ull *backen* the craps' (crops).

Back-side, *n.* the back of the house.

Back-sword, *n.* the exercise of singlestick.

Badger, *v.* to torment; to worry.

Bag, *n.* the udder of a cow. Three bushels of corn.

Bag, *v.* to cut wheat, &c., with a *bagging-hook*, instead of with a sickle. The former instrument is larger and heavier than the sickle, and is used with a chopping action, instead of with a pull, as the sickle is used.

Bagger-wench, *n.* a beggar-girl.

Bagginet, *n.* a bayonet.

Baker, *n.* a pebble fixed into the roof of an oven to indicate when it is sufficiently heated. This is shown by the stone then presenting a floury-white appearance.

Bandy, *n.* a game played with a stick bent at the lower end; the bent stick used in the game (also called hockey).

Bannits, *n.* walnuts. 'Why uf 'ere yunt aowd Stoodley; the fust time as ever I knaowed 'im wus w'en 'e wus took up fur stalin' *bannits*.'

Barking-iron, *n.* an iron tool used in peeling off bark from trees.

Barm, *n.* yeast.

Barm-spout, *n.* a tin or wooden tube used for the purpose of conveying the yeast from the cask.

Baste, (1) *n.* a beast, (2) *v.* to beat. 'Uf I ketches thee a runnin' over that gardin agyun, I'll gi' thū a good *bastin*.' (3) *v.* To pour gravy upon meat while roasting, to prevent its burning.

Bat, *n.* pace; speed; as in walking, &c. 'I've come along at a smartish *bat*, an' it fetches the sweat out on mū, above a bit.'

Bāther, *v.* to trample or beat down standing corn or grass; to wallow in dust, as fowls do.

Batherer, *n.* a dealer, as *ash-batherer*, a dealer in wood ashes (used for making ley).

Batter, *v.* In building a tall chimney, to *batter* is to gradually reduce the circumference. To build a wall out of the perpendicular.

Battle, *n.* a beetle; a cock-roach.

Bawk, *v.* to hinder.

Be-call, *v.* to abuse.

Bed-wrist (bed-wrest), *n.* a wooden instrument used for tightening the cords of the old-fashioned corded bedsteads.

Beetle, *n.* a large wooden hammer, or mallet.

Belluck, *v.* to roar.

Bell-wether, *n.* a crying child (primarily the wether-sheep which carried the bell).

Bed of a cart or **wagon**, *n.* the body; the wheels, &c., upon which it is borne being called the carriage.

Belly-full, *n.* a sufficient quantity. 'Didn't I see you a comin' out o' the Methodis' chapel o' Sundry, Mrs. Accon?' 'Oy sure, so yū did: it yunt as I 'aowlds ööth the Methodisses, they be sū sly to my thinkin'; but I likes to gōō sometimes 'cos the sarmuns be sū cuttin'. Many a time I a' sat in that chapel an' cried my *belly-full*.'

Belt, *v.* to shear off the soiled wool ('belt-locks') from the buttocks of sheep.

Bent, *n.* slender stalk of grass.

Better, *adv.* more. 'How long have you lived in this house?' 'O, rather *better* nur a twelve-month.'

Bezzle, *v.* to drink immoderately, as a drunkard.

Bird-keeping, *v.* scaring birds from corn.

Bizzum (Besom), *n.* a broom composed of twigs of birch or of ling.

Black-bat, *n.* a black beetle.

Black-stare, *n.* a starling.

Blaht, *v.* to cry or hallo out lustily.

Bledther, *n.* a bladder.

Bleeding-heart, *n.* a kind of garden flower.

Blood-stick, *n.* a stick with which farriers strike the fleam when bleeding cattle.

Bloody-thumbs, *n.* quaker-grass.

Blow, *n.* blossom (pronounced *blaow*). 'That 'awthun tree anant the aowd barn is in *blaow* mwust beautiful.' 'Uv yū sin the *blaow* uv this 'ere pink? Its amwust as big as a rose.'

Blubber, *n.* a bubble.

Boar-stag, *n.* an old boar which has been emasculated.

Boil-out, *v.* to waste in boiling.

Bolchin, *n.* an unfledged bird.

Bolting, *n.* (pronounced *baowtin'*), a bundle of straw of from 12 to 14lbs. weight. The *boltings* of best and longest straw are tied with two bands, those containing the short and inferior straw with only one. 'What a fright thū bist, wench; thee look'st like a *baowtin'* tied o' one bond.'

Book-of-hard-names, *n.* an account book.

Boss, *n.* a tassel; a rosette; a small bunch of ribbons.

Bost, *v.* to explode with a report.

Bottom, *n.* a ball or skein. 'It's all of a robble, like a bottom o' yarn.'

Bout, *n.* in ploughing, &c., once up and down the field. A 'bout' at back-sword corresponds with a 'round' at boxing.

Bowle, *n.* a bar or beam of a harrow. The *bowles* are connected by the *sloats*.

Bowk, *n.* the 'box' of a wheel. (The iron lining in which the axle is inserted.)

Braishy, *adj.* having branches.

Bran-new, *adj.* quite new.

Breast-plough, *n.* a plough worked by a man. It has a flat piece of wood at the upper end against which the plougher pushes with his breast, hence its name.

Bree, *n.* a large fly resembling a bee.

Breeds, *n.* the brim of a hat.

Brem, *n.* bream (a kind of fish).

Brevit, *v.* to hunt about; to pry inquisitively. 'Where 'a yŭ pŭt my prayer-book to, Mary? I've brevitted thraow all them drahrs an' I caunt find 'im.' 'E'l get nuthin' from we, it's uv no use far 'im to come brevittin' about ower place.'

Briar-ball, *n.* a kind of spongy ball growing on the hip-briar or wild rose bush.

Brim, *n.* a boar.

Brun, or **hind-brun**, *n.* a log of wood suitable for laying behind or at the back of the grate.

Brow, *n.* the forehead.

Buckle, *n.* a tough slip of wood used for fastening the thatch upon a roof; *v.* to bend.

Builded, *v.* built.

Buff, *v.* to muffle the clapper of a bell.

Buff-peal, *n.* a muffled peal.

Bull-squitter, *n.* much fuss or talk about a very little matter.

Bum-ball, *n.* a ball with which boys play 'rounders' or similar games.

Bum, or **Bum-bailey**, *n.* a broker's man. 'I heerd uz how Jack 'ud got the *bums* in 'is 'ouse for rent.'

Bunch-o'-fives, *n.* the fist.

Bunt, *v.* to butt like a rat. To help another in climbing, &c., by giving him a lift (or bunt) behind.

Bur-dock, *n.* a thick, hard-stemmed dock.

Burr, *n.* a piece of iron to screw on the end of a bolt (same as nut.)

Burrū, *n.* a sheltered place. Corruption of burrow. 'The wind is pretty teart to-day, but if yū keeps in the burrū it 'll do yū moore good to gōō out in the air a bit nur stivin' by the fire all the while.'

Burrū-urdle, *n.* a hurdle covered or thatched with straw and propped up in the field, on the *burrū* or sheltered side of which a tolerably good shelter from wind and rain may be secured.

Bury, *n.* a heap, as of potatoes ('tater-bury'), or of dung ('muck-bury.')

Bush-house, *n.* (at Pershore) a house opened at fair time only (26th and 27th of June), for the sale of beer and cider without licence, indicated by a bush fixed up at the door. Suppressed 1863.

Bussen, **Bussen-bellied**, *adj.* ruptured.

Butty, *n.* a work-fellow or companion. 'Ave yū sin Mary Parker lately, Mrs. Yapp?' 'Oye, I sis 'er mwust wicks; 'er's my butty when I weshes at the pawson's.' 'Im an' 'is butties wuz at ther tay, an' a mon cum to the door, an' 'e sez, sez 'e, "W'ich o' your names is Robison?"'

Bwystings, *n.* the first milk drawn from the udder of a cow after calving.

Byun-brish, *n.* bean stubble.

Cadger, *n.* a beggar.

Cag-mag, *v.* to grumble at, to quarrel. 'The missis sez to me, "What's that naise?" 'er sez. "Oh," sez I "it's only them two aowd craters upstairs a *cagmaggin'* like thay allays be."'

Call, *n.* cause; or, occasion.

Calls, to cattle, &c. To cows: 'Coop! coop!' To dogs: 'Heah, heah' or 'Pishty! Pishty!' To horses: 'Coop!' (start); 'Aw!' (turn towards driver); 'Cuma!' (to first horse to turn towards driver); 'Cum-ither!' (the same); 'Ett!' (turn from driver); 'Gee!' (to first horse to turn from driver); 'Wult!' (go slowly); 'Wey!' (stop). To pigs: 'Chuck! chuck!' To poultry: 'Còme Biddy! còme Biddy!'

Cank, *v.* to chatter; to talk incessantly.

Caplin, *n.* the bow by which, by means of a thong (*thunk*), the *nile* is attached to the hand-stick of a flail, or *threshel*.

Cart-saddle, *n.* the saddle worn by a cart-horse, and which carries the back-band.

Carrying-the-grind-stone, *v.* fetching the doctor to one's wife at her confinement.

Casselty, *adj.* uncertain. 'There's no tellin' what to be at in sitch *casselty* weather.'

Casting-net, *n.* a kind of fishing-net.

Cast (1) *n.* a second swarm of bees from the same hive in one season. (2) *v.* To give birth prematurely. (3) To yield. 'The whate *casses* (casts) well this year.' (4) A sheep turned over on its back and unable to get up again is *cast*.

Cat, *n.* a small piece of wood used in the game of 'bandy.' The *cat* is knocked with the bandy in opposite directions by the opposing players. (Also called a '*nun*.')

Chackle, *v.* to cackle as a hen.

Charky, *adj.* dry, sunbaked.

Chate or **Chnt**, *n.* the Grasshopper Warbler.

Chats, *n.* chips of wood; short sticks, &c.

Chaun, *n.* a crack in the earth, or in a floor or wall. 'The ground is so dry there be *chauns* in it big enough for me to put my füt in amwust' (almost).

Chawl (1) *v.* to chew slowly. (2) To repeat words which have given offence. (3) *n.* The lower jaw of a pig.

Cheese, *n.* the stack of apple-pulp arranged in the press ready for pressing out the cider.

Cheese-cowl, *n.* a shallow tub, used in cheese making.

Cheeses, *n.* seeds of the Common Mallow.

Chime, *n.* a stave of a cask or tub.

Chine, *n.* a slice containing the spine cut out of the back of a pig. It is usually cut up into four or five lengths, each of which is called a *chine*.

Chits, *n.* the sprouts which shoot out from potatoes, wheat, &c., when germination has commenced. 'Them taters wans (want) sartin', but you must be keerful 'ow yŷ 'ondles um, else you'll knock the *chits* off.'

Chit, *n.* a term of approbrium applied to a forward young girl.

Chittlins (chitterlings), *n.* the entrails; most commonly applied to those of a pig.

Chobble, *v.* to chew.

Chock, *n.* a block of wood with which the linch-pin hole in the hub of a wheel is closed.

Chock-full, *adj.* completely full.

Chop, *v.* to exchange.

Chops, *n.* the mouth. 'Shut yer *chops* an' keep yer belly warm.'

Chump, *n.* a block of wood. The head, 'He's off his *chump*' = 'He's out of his mind.'

Christian, *n.* a human being.

Clack, *n.* chatter; incessant and idle talk.

Clanins (cleanings), *n.* the after-birth of a ewe, cow, mare, &c.

Clat-beetle, *n.* a light wooden mallet with a long handle used for breaking hard clods of earth.

Clatter, *n.* a rattling noise.

Cleaches, *n.* clots of blood, &c.

Clet, *n.* a wedge.

Clock, *n.* the downy head of the dandelion, when gone to seed. The children pluck these and blow off the down; the number of puffs required to blow off the whole of the down from one stalk is supposed to indicate what o'clock it is.

Clip, *v.* to embrace. 'The child *clipped* mū round the neck.'

Clomber, *v.* to climb.

Clommed, *adj.* starved, famished.

Clout, *n.* a rag or cloth, as dish-clout. Clothing.
'Change not a *clout* 'till May be out.'

Clout, *n.* a plate of iron nailed upon a wooden axle, to prevent its wearing away too rapidly with the friction of the wheel.

Cloy-iron, *n.* the iron at the end of a plough beam to which the traces of the horses are attached. (? Cloven-iron, the iron being divided to embrace the end of the plough-beam.)

Coal-hod, *n.* a coal box.

Cob-waaf, *n.* a spider's web.

Cock-laft, *n.* (cock-loft), the upper part of the interior of the roof.

Cock-sure, *adj.* over certain or confident. 'When the Deuyll had once broughte Christe to the crosse, he thought all *cocke sure*.' *Latimer's Sermon on The Ploughers*, 1549.

Cod (of a net), *n.* the bag-like part of a net used in bird-catching.

Cokers, *n.* reapers. The term is generally applied to those who come from a distance in search of harvest work.

Colley, *n.* soot; coal-black; smuttiness; *v.* to blacken.

Colley-coal, *n.* a cinder or ember.

'Come-back,' the cry of the guinea-fowl.

Come-ether, = come-hither.

Come-'is-ways, or **Come-'er-ways**, a term of endearment, used by parents when greeting their little children.

Cone-wheat, *n.* bearded wheat.

Conger, *n.* a cucumber.

Conk, *n.* the nose.

Conker, *n.* a snail shell, or snail-house.

Consaits, *v.* fancies or imagines. 'Two uv ower young uns a got the 'oopin' cough.' 'Ave um? a yŭ gan 'um ennything far it?' 'Ō oye, my dōman a bin a givin' 'um some buried bread ever so many marnins.' 'Dōös it do 'um any good?' 'Well 'er *consaits* 'erself uz it dōös.'

Cord-of-wood, a bundle or pile of wood 5 ft. high 8 ft. long and 4 ft. 1 in. wide. (Pronounced card (or kwerd) o' dōd.)

Cord-wood (Card-dōd), *n.* the branches of trees or other kind of timber, either cleft or round, used (as a rule) for fuel. Sold by measurement as above. (Pronounced Card-dōd or kwerd-dōd.)

Corner-frost, *n.* a frost so mild that it is only to be seen at corners exposed to the wind.

Cos, *conj.* because.

Cotch, *v.* caught.

Cover, *n.* a covert.

Cow-cummer, *n.* a cucumber.

Cowl, *n.* a small tub.

Crab-shulls, *n.* shoes.

Craichy, *adj.* weak; infirm; shaky. 'This 'ere's a mighty *craichy* aowd 'ouse.' 'I caunt get about much now, nat tŭ do no good, yŭ knaow; I be nothin' but a *craichy* aowd piece.'

Cranky, *adj.* insane.

Cratch, *n.* a kind of rack at back of a waggon or cart.

Craow-inun (crow-onion), *n.* a wild onion which often infests corn-crops, particularly in poor land.

Crass-eyed (cross-eyed), *adj.* squinting.

Craw, *n.* the bosom. 'I 'a ketched a bit a caowd through workin' ooth me shirt *craw* unbuttoned.'

Crazies, *n.* buttercups.

Cress-tiles, *n.* the tiles which cover the angle or ridge of a roof (crest-tiles.)

- Crib**, *n.* (1) a child's cot or cradle slung on a stand so that it may be swung or rocked. (2) A wooden enclosure or framework to contain straw or hay for foddering cattle. (3) *v.* To pilfer.
- Cricket**, *n.* a little stool.
- Croodle**, *v.* to bend or stoop down; to cower. 'Sit up, Lizzie, caunt yū. What do yū *croodle* over yer work like that far? You'll grow quite 'ump-backed.'
- Cross-and-hands**, *n.* a finger-post.
- Cub**, *n.* a hutch for rabbits; *v.* to confine in a small space. 'It's a shame to *cub* them poor bastes up in that 'ole uv a place.'
- Cuckoo's-maid** or **Cuckoo's-mate**, *n.* the Wry-neck.
- Cullin'**, *n.* refuse corn.
- Culver**, *n.* a culvert.
- Cunny-thumbed**, *adj.* applied to a boy who shoots his marbles from the thumb-nail instead of from the knuckle of the thumb.
- Cups-and-saucers**, *n.* acorn cups.
- Cuther**, *v.* to whisper confidentially.
- Cutlins**, *n.* barley slightly bruised and cleared of the husk, used for stuffing pig's (or hog's) puddings.
- Dabble**, *v.* to paddle in water with the hands or feet.
- Dabbly weather**, *adj.* uncertain, showery.
- Dabster**, *n.* an expert.
- Dadduck**, *n.* dry rotten wood, &c.
- Dag**, *v.* to draggle, or trail in the mud.
- Daow-bit** (dew-bit), *n.* a morsel of food taken immediately after rising early in the morning.
- Daub**, *v.* to soil. 'Yū shaunt gōō, I tell yū, *daubin'* yer best things all over.'
- Dayus**, *n.* a dairy.
- Despert** (desperate) *adv.* remarkably, as '*despert* cold,' '*despert* good,' &c.
- Didguck**, *n.* a boy's game played with sharpened sticks.
- Differ**, *v.* to quarrel.
- Dink**, *v.* to toss, as a nurse tosses a baby.
- Dither**, *v.* to shake or tremble from cold or from fright. 'The wind was that piercin' it seemed to gōō thraough un; it made me all uv a *dither*.'
- Do-her-mouth**, *v.* to kiss a girl.

- Dob**, *n.* a lump, as 'a dob a fat'; 'a dob a shuet' (suet).
- Dock**, *v.* to cut off the end of a horse's tail. To stop wages.
- Dodment**, *n.* grease from the axle of a wheel, &c. That from the gudgeons or axle of a church bell is supposed to be a cure for the shingles.
- Dog**, *n.* a piece of iron having its ends sharpened and bent at right angles. Its use is to hold timber firmly in its place on the saw pit while being sawn up.
- Dog-daisy**, *n.* a wild flower, the blossom of which resembles that of a daisy.
- Dog-hook**, *n.* a hook used by sawyers or woodmen in rolling or moving heavy trees or logs of wood.
- Dollup**, *n.* a quantity.
- Dolly** (1) *n.* the wooden instrument used by laundresses. (2) *v.* To use the dolly.
- Dolly-doosey**, *n.* a doll.
- Domber**, *v.* to smoulder. 'I 'anged my bwoy's wet things afore the fire to dry, an' in the marnin' I fund 'em *dombered* an' *dombered* all away.'
- Donny**, *n.* the hand (used in talking to children). 'Be 'is *donnies* acaowd? come 'is ways an' warm 'um a bit.'
- Double**, *n.* a baby's napkin (? derived from 'doublet').
- Douk**, *v.* to duck the head. 'You must *douk* yer yud to get thraough that little doer.'
- Dowdy**, *adj.* of very quiet, homely habits. Old-fashioned.
- Dowst**, *n.* a blow.
- Dowt**, *v.* to extinguish (? 'do out'). 'Mind as you dowts the candle safe, w'en yū be got into bed.'
- Dozen-of-bread**, *n.* two half-quartern loaves, probably so-called because loaves used to be sold at sixpence each, or two for a dozen pence, their size varying according to the price of corn.
- Drag-harrow** or **Dray-harrow**, *n.* a heavy, deep-furrowing harrow.
- Draft**, *n.* a quarter of a ton.
- Drapper-pin**, *n.* the iron pin or swivel on which the front (or fore) axle of a carriage turns.
- Dribble**, *v.* to run with a feeble slender stream.
- Drift**, *n.* an iron instrument used by coopers for driving hoops on casks.
- Drift-pin**, *n.* a round iron instrument for driving pegs, &c., out of holes.

Dromedary, *n.* a dull, stupid person.

Dry, *adj.* thirsty. 'I be a very little yutter (eater) and am sildum adry.'

Dry-skin, *adj.* droll. 'E's a *dry-skin* sart of a chap; 'e's sure tū make yū loff w'en ũ (he) opens 'is mouth.'

Dubbid, *adj.* blunt.

Duck's-frost, *n.* a wet night.

Dummill, *n.* a useless article; a stupid or mischievous child is often called a 'young *dummill*.'

Dummuck, *n.* same as dummill.

Dumpty, *adj.* short and thick.

Dunch, *v.* to give a blow with the elbow.

Ean, *v.* to bring forth young (of sheep).

Edge-o'-night, *n.* at dusk or evening.

Eekle, *n.* the Wood-pecker. (Also called the Stock-eekle.)

Eekle-hole, *n.* a small hole in the trunk of a tree, usually produced by a wood-pecker, and which indicates that the tree is hollow.

Ell-rake, *n.* a large rake used in gathering up hay (? heel-rake).

Ellun, *n.* Elder.

Elven, *n.* Elm.

Empt, *v.* to empty.

Enow, *adj.* enough; a sufficient number. 'You be *enow* on yū to yut (eat) that pig, much mōore to carry 'im.' (Plural only, in the singular *enough* is used.)

Entany, *n.* a narrow passage, or bye-street. In Pershore there is a narrow passage leading out of Bridge Street, called 'Bachelor's *Entany*.'

Ether, *n.* an adder.

Etherin (ethering), *n.* briars or slender branches used for binding the upper part of a newly laid hedge.

Ettles, *n.* nettles.

Ever-anons-while, at frequent intervals. (Not often used now.)

Ever-so, if it was *ever so* = reduced to the last extremity. 'I ðōdn't ex 'im fur bread, nat if it was *ever so*; I'd famish fust.'

Fad, (1) *n.* a whim; a fancy. (2) *v.* To be busy about trifles. (1) 'What are those railings for, John?' 'Oh, it's just a

fad uv 'is lardship's, nothin' but a *fad* uv 'is'n, yŭ knaow ; thay be o' no sart o' use.' (2) 'The gaffer's a gettin' very wake an' childish, 'e caunt do much ; 'e just *fads* about uv a marnin' like.'

Faddy, *adj.* fanciful ; whimsical.

Faggit, *n.* a term of reproach applied to females.

Faggits, *n.* minced liver seasoned with herbs.

Fainty-bag, *n.* a lady's fancy bag.

Fair-in (fairing), *n.* a present purchased at a fair.

Fall, *v.* to fell (as applied to trees). *n.* The timber periodically cut down in a wood.

False, *adj.* deceitful, two-faced.

Famished (or famill'd), *adj.* starved ; very hungry.

Feather-groom, *n.* a term facetiously applied to a man who has charge of poultry.

Felt, *n.* the Red-wing.

Fettle, *v.* to set to rights ; to prepare. 'This room's all uv a mulluck, it wans (wants) *fettlin* up a bit.' In good fettle = in good condition.

Fiddle-about, *v.* See *Piddle about*.

Filler, *n.* the shaft-horse. See *Thiller*.

Find-liss, *n.* any article found by accident ; treasure-trove.

Fine, *adj.* To talk *fine* is to speak genteelly.

Fire-new or **Fire-bran-new**, *adj.* quite new.

Fit, *adj.* ready ; prepared. 'Well, Jack uf thee bist *fit*, we'll rowt out a faow mōore o' thase ere taters.'

Fitcher, *n.* a pole-cat.

Fidther, *v.* to make a slight rustling sound, as a mouse or a rat does amongst straw, &c.

Fits-and-girds, *n.* irregularly ; by fits and starts.

Flake-hurdles, *n.* hurdles made with closely intertwined brush-wood or twigs.

Flem (fleam), *n.* a lance or lancet for bleeding cattle.

Flen, *n.* fleas.

Fleshy, *adj.* fledged (applied to young birds).

Fletcher or **Flatcher**, *n.* a dam over which water flows.

Flewed, *adj.* (of a hoop) to be made larger on one side than on the other, so that it may fit the taper shape of a cask.

Flower-knot, *n.* a small flower-bed.

Fore-ladder (pronounced *Fore-ladther*), *n.* a movable rack attached to the front of a waggon.

Fore-top, *n.* a hackle of coloured horse-hair used as a head ornament for a horse.

Forjitting, *n.* a mixture of cow-dung and mortar used for plastering the inside of chimneys.

Forjit, *n.* a piece of leather forming part of the finger of a glove.

Forrad, *v.* to bring forward; to promote. 'This ere drap o' rain ull *forrad* the craps.'

Fossit, *n.* See *Spiggit-and-Fossit*.

Fot, *v.* fetched. 'I fot 'im a paowt o' the yud ðøth my stick.'

Frail, *n.* a basket made with plaited segs or rushes.

Franzy, *adj.* passionate.

Fresh, *adj.* intoxicated.

Fresh-liquor, *n.* hog's lard unsalted.

Fritch, *adj.* conceited; vain. 'You a no call to be so *fritch*, if yũ have got a new frock on!'

Frog, *n.* the soft part of a horse's hoof.

Frog-stool, *n.* a kind of fungus; a toadstool.

From-ard, or **from-mud**, *n.* a tool used for splitting poles, &c.

Frum, *adj.* fully ripe; in good condition.

'**Furder-a-fild**' = farther off.

Furnace, *n.* a large boiler fixed in brick-work. In London called a copper.

Fulling, *n.* the groove in a horse shoe to receive the heads of the nails.

Fuzzen, *n.* gorse; furze.

Gaffer, *n.* master. 'Wer's the *gaffer*? I wants to ex 'im if 'e caunt find a job fur ower Tom.'

Gain, *adj.* handy; expert; convenient. 'Take the 'oss an' lave 'im at the blacksmith's as thũ gwust by; that'll be the gainest way.'

Gallus, *adj.* wicked; impudent. 'I be reg'lar ashum'd uv our Alfred, 'e's sich a *gallus* little chap, there yunt nobody as 'e wunt sauce.'

Gambrel, *n.* a bar of wood by which butchers hang up the carcasses of sheep, &c.

Gammits, *n.* jokes; tricks. 'E's allus up to some gammit er another, instid o' mindin' 'is work.'

Gan, *v. a.* gave.

Garden-gate, *n.* Heartsease or Pansy.

Gaum, *v.* to handle articles in a manner calculated to damage or mar their appearance.

Gawn, *n.* a tub holding about a gallon, and usually having a handle projecting upwards on one side (? corruption of 'gallon').

Gay, *n.* a swing, or see-saw.

Gets, *v.* gains. 'My watch (a pronounced as in catch) *gets*, I must put 'im back a bit.'

Giggling, *adj.* light; unsteady. 'Don't get into that there bwut if there's nobuddy along ððth yū as con swim; it's a gigglin' thing, an' you'll sure to be drowned.'

Gin, *v. p.* gave (g hard).

Glany, *n.* a guinea fowl.

Gleed, *n.* the red embers of a fire.

Gob, *n.* a quantity of spittle or expectorated matter discharged from the mouth, &c.

Go-back, *v.* to die. 'I'm afear'd my ððman 'll *goo back*; 'er's that wake (weak) 'er cun 'ardly stond wen 'er gets up out uv 'er cheer' (chair).

Golden-chain, *n.* Laburnum.

Gondud, *n.* a gander.

Gon-sarn-yū! Gon-sarn-it! } Expletives.
Gon-shume-yū! Gon-shume-it! }

Gōōa, *v.* go. (As I have never heard any but old persons pronounce the word 'go' in this way, it is probable that it is not now to be heard at all.)

Good-sarted, *adj.* of good kind. 'We've got some very *good-sarted* fruit in our archud.'

Good-shut, *adv.* a good riddance.

Gōō-off, *n.* beginning. 'The pawson gan mū this 'ere cōōut, an' 'e a lasted mū five er six year. I didn't wear 'im every day thaough, nat at the fust gōō-off yū knaow.'

Gowt, *n.* a short drain.

Graft, or **Grafting-tool**, *n.* a narrow crescent-shaped spade used by drainers.

Grainch, *v.* to grind the teeth; to make a grinding sound.

- Grass-nail**, *n.* the hook which supports the scythe in its attachment to the 'sned.'
- Great**, *adj.* on very friendly terms.
- Gret-work**, *n.* piece work. Working by the *gret* = working by the piece instead of by the day or hour.
- Grist**, *n.* corn to be ground (applied to small quantities).
- Grist-mill**, *n.* a mill for grinding small quantities.
- Ground-aish**, *n.* an ash sapling.
- Ground**, *n.* a field.
- Grout**, *n.* coarse mortar used in an almost liquid state.
- Grump**, *v.* to crunch with the teeth any hard or dry substance, such as grains of uncooked rice, &c.
- Gubbon-hole**, *n.* a sink for the reception of dirty water, &c.
- Gull**, *n.* a young goose.
- Gullup**, *v.* to swallow down. 'I sin (saw) one a them there great cranes a gulluppin' down a frog.'
- Gurgins**, *n.* fine bran.
- Gwain** or **Gwainin'**, *v.* going. 'I shaunt stop to work in this 'ere rain no longer; I be wet thraow now, an' I be a *gwainin* wum.'
- Gyawky**, *n.* a stupid, awkward person.
- Gyaup**, *v.* to stare. 'Get on o' thee work ðõt, don't stond gyaupin' there.'
- Hack-an'-haow** (hack-and-hew) *v.* to stumble or hesitate over reading or speaking. 'Why doesn't spell the words, an' nat stond 'ackin' an' haowin' athattens.'
- Hacker**, *n.* a chopper used by hedgers.
- Hack-rake**, *v.* to rake the hay together after it has been spread out to dry.
- Haggle**, *v.* to dispute. **Haggling**, *v.* prolonged bargaining.
- Half-soaked**, *adj.* silly; of weak intellect.
- Hand**, on the mending hand, recovering; convalescent. 'The faver a made 'im very wake, but 'e's *on the mendin'* 'ond now.'
- Hand-barrow**, *n.* a barrow or carriage without a wheel, but with a pair of handles at each end, by which to carry it.
- Hanker**, *v.* See *Onker*.
- Haowt**, *v.* hold. 'Now then lay haowt o'this 'ere shuppick an' set to work ðõt.'
- Happen** = perhaps.

Hard-o'-hearing, *adj.* deaf.

Hardi-shraow, *n.* the shrew-mouse.

Hare-shore, *n.* a hare-lip.

Hay-ud (Hayward), *n.* an officer whose duty it was (when the fields were unenclosed) to impound stray cattle, tithe crops, warn off trespassers, &c.

Hay-riff, *n.* a creeping plant, the seeds of which stick to the clothing or to the coats of animals with great tenacity.

Heart-well or **Heart-whole**, *adj.* well ; in general health. 'How are you now, Jacob?' 'Well, I be 'eart-well, thenk yū, but I a got the rheumatics in me shoolder martile bad.'

Heaver, *n.* the same as 'lift.' (See *Lift*.)

Hedge-betty, *n.* a hedge-sparrow.

Hedger, *n.* a man who lays or mends hedges.

Heft, *v.* weight. 'Just *heft* this 'ere young un, yunt 'e a weight?'

Hegglar (higgler), *n.* an itinerant dealer in eggs, poultry, &c.

Helve, *n.* the handle of an axe or hatchet. In the nursery rhyme 'One two, buckle my shoe,' &c., we have 'Eleven twelve a hatchet *helve*.'

Herds, *n.* tow or oakum.

Herden, *adj.* made of *herds* ; coarse canvas.

Hern = hers. 'W'at's 'ern's 'is'n, an' w'at's 'isn's 'ern.'

Hips, *n.* dog-rose berries.

Hip-briar, *n.* the wild rose tree.

His'n = his.

Hit, *n.* the quality of a crop, or result of an undertaking, as 'a good *hit* of fruit.' 'He made a good *hit* when he took that shap.'

Hob, *n.* a third swarm of bees from the same hive in one season.

Hobbady-hoy = hobble-de-hoy.

Hobbady-lantern, *n.* the ignis fatuus, or Will-o'-th'-wisp.

Hob-ferrit, *n.* a male ferret.

Hobli-onkers, *n.* chestnuts.

Hockey, *n.* See *Bandy*.

Hookle, *v.* to shuffle along, or to walk with difficulty. 'We sh'll a some wet I be afeard ; my carns plagues mū so as I caunt 'ardly 'ockle along.'

Hod-bow-lud, *n.* a large moth.

Hog's-puddings, *n.* chitterlings stuffed with cutlins seasoned with herbs, &c.

Hogshead, *n.* a cask capable of containing 100 gallons.

Homes, *n.* part of the harness of cart-horses, fitting upon the collar, and to which the traces are fastened.

Hommock or **hammock plough**, *n.* a plough shorter than the 'long-plough,' but longer than the G. O. plough.

Hommucks, *n.* feet. 'Keep thee great 'ommucks off my toes ööt, thy fit be like two great barges.'

Honesty, *n.* a creeping plant, common in old hedges.

Honey-dew, *n.* a kind of blight which covers the leaves of plants with a viscous covering something like honey.

Hoot, *v.* to shout. The noise made by a wheel in motion when the axle requires greasing, is also called *hooting*.

Hooter, *n.* a cone-shaped tin vessel for heating beer, &c.

Hoove, *n.* a hoe; *v.* to hoe.

Horry-long-legs (Harry-long-legs) *n.* the daddy-long-legs (insect).

Horse-stinger, *n.* the dragon-fly.

Hotchel, *v.* same as 'hockle.'

Housen, *n.* houses.

Houzin, *n.* a broad piece of leather resting on a horse's collar, and standing erect behind the hames.

Hud, *n.* a husk or shell. 'I a bin a 'uddin' some bannits, an' they makes my 'onds pretty nigh black.'

Huff (1) *v.* to offend; (2) *n.* a fit of temper.

Hulking, *adj.* lazy, idling.

Hulls, *n.* husks or shells (same as 'huds').

Humbugs, *n.* sweetmeats; sugar-plums.

Hum-buzz, *n.* a cockchafer.

Hurter, *n.* a thick piece of iron fastened to a wooden axle, against which the back of the wheel works.

Iffing-and-Offing, *v.* in a state of indecision.

Ill-convanient, *adj.* inconvenient.

Ilt or **hilt**, *n.* a young sow.

Inch-meal, *adv.* bit by bit, or little by little.

Innuds (innards), *n.* the bowels.

Inuns, *n.* onions. 'What have you and your brother been fighting about, James?' 'Why he said he'd tromple my inun bed all to pieces, so I drapped it on 'im.'

In-winding, *adj.* uneven; twisted.

Jack, *n.* a machine for lifting heavy weights.

Jack-a-makin'-pan-cakes, the reflected sunlight thrown upon the ceiling from the surface of water, &c.

Jack-an'-is-lantern (Jack-o-lantern), *n.* a Will-o'-th'-wisp.

Jack-hare, *n.* a male hare.

Jacky-stones, *n.* rather small and extremely hard fossilated shells common in red gravel.

Jiffey, *n.* an instant. 'I'll be there in 'half a jiffey.' *I'll be there immediately.*

Jill-ferret, *n.* a female ferret.

Jilly-flower, *n.* a wallflower.

Jobb, *v.* to stab with a sharp instrument. 'How did Sally lose the sight of her eye?' 'Why, w'en 'er wuz a young 'er *jobbed* the pwint o' the scissors in 'er eye.'

Joggle, *v.* to shake; to totter.

Jommuck, *v.* to shake about roughly.

Jonnuck, *n.* one who always pays his full share in a reckoning for beer, &c.

Josey, *n.* a toad.

Jumper, *n.* a blow-fly maggot.

Jumping-stock or **Jump-jack**, *n.* two upright sticks and a cross-piece for children to jump over.

Junder (gender), *n.* frog-spawn, frequently called 'toads' *junder*.'

Jussly (justly), *adv.* exactly.

Keen, *v.* to sharpen.

Keep (1) *v.* to *keep* a market is to attend it, with something to sell. (2) *n.* food. 'There's some good *keep* in the meadow for the cows now.' 'What bist a gwain to 'ave at thee new place?' 'Ten shillin' a wik an' me *keep*.'

Keffie, *n.* anything of bad or inferior quality.

Kernel, *n.* a hard swelling or indurated gland.

Kernuck or **Curnock**, *n.* a measure of barley of four bushels.

Kicked-the-bucket, *v.* died.

Kid, *n.* a faggot of sticks.

Kindle, *v.* to bring forth young (rabbits).

Knerly (gnarly), *adj.* knotty (applied to timber).

Knitting-shear, *n.* a small sheath into which knitters insert the end of the knitting needle.

Know to, *v.* to know of. 'Plaze, miss, ööd you like a young lennet? Cos I *knaows* to a nist.' Or 'I *knaows* to some nisses.'

Kyind, *adj.* favourable; in good condition. 'We shaunt 'ave many curran's this year, but the plums seems very *kyind*.'

Kyipe, *n.* a basket.

'Kyonder or **'Kyander**, *v.* look yonder.

Lade-gawn, *n.* a ladle or long-handled gawn, for serving out pigs' wash from the cistern.

Ladies'-smock, *n.* a common wild flower.

Lady-cow, *n.* the lady-bird.

Lafe or **lef**, *n.* the fat lining taken from the inside of the carcase of a pig.

Laggy, *adj.* (applied to timber), having a natural crack inside, frequently with a portion of bark (then called 'bark-lag').

Lands, *n.* the ridges into which cultivated fields are formed for facilitating drainage.

Lap, *v.* to wrap up, to lop off branches of trees; *n.* the lopped-off branches of trees.

Lath-render, *n.* a maker of laths.

Lay (a hedge), *v.* to cut away all the over-growth of an old hawthorn hedge, and to arrange or relay the young wood.

Lay-in, *v.* cost. 'My trip to Lunnun *lay mü* in a sovereign, one way an' another.'

Laze, *n.* idleness; *v.* to glean (often pronounced le-uz).

Lazing-bag, *n.* a packet in which *lazers* or gleaners collect the 'short ears' (of corn.) See '*Poking*.'

Lazy-back, *n.* an iron frame hung over the fire upon which to rest a frying-pan, &c.; a hard lump of unkneaded flour in a loaf of bread.

Leaf, *n.* See *Lafe*.

Learn, *v.* to teach.

Leather, *v.* to beat.

Leatherun, *adj.* made of leather.

Leatherun-bat, *n.* the common bat.

Lections, *n.* chances, probabilities. 'There's no *lections* of enny rain just it.'

Lew-warm, *adj.* lukewarm.

Lezzow, *n.* a meadow.

Lick (1) *n.* a blow. 'E gin the dog a *lick* ööth 'is stick.' (2) *v.* To wipe over lightly. 'The flur's shameful dirty, but we mustn't wet 'im; jus' give 'im a *lick* over ööt Mary?' (3) To beat, or to conquer in a game or in fighting, &c.

Lift, *n.* a stile which can be lifted out of its place to permit the passage of cattle or vehicles, &c. Also called a *heaver*.

Lights, *n.* the lungs.

Limmel, *adv.* torn in pieces. 'He tore him *limmel*.'

Lin-pin, *n.* a linch-pin.

Lissom, *adj.* active.

List, *n.* the selvedge edge of flannel or of woollen cloth.

Live, *adv.* willingly. 'I'd as live goo as stop.'

Locks-and-kays (keys), *n.* the leaves of the ash.

Logger, *n.* a thick lump of wood attached to a horse's leg to prevent its straying.

Lollock, *v.* to lean about in an idle, listless manner.

Long-hundud (long-hundred), *n.* 1 cwt.; 112 lbs.

Long-plough, *n.* an old-fashioned wooden plough with long beam and long tails or handles.

Loose, *v.* to go alone (said of young children), frequently pronounced *laowse*.

Louse-kiver, *n.* a vulgar name for a hat or cap.

Louse-pasture, *n.* a vulgar expression, signifying the hair of the head, or the scalp.

Lug, *v.* to pull.

Lumbersome, *adj.* cumbrous.

Lungeous, *adj.* rough at play; cruel; unnecessarily severe in chastising children.

Luny, *adj.* imbecile; lunatic.

Lush, *v.* to beat with green boughs. 'Ööt come along o' me to take some waasps' nisses? Thee cunst pull out the cake wi'le I *lushes*.'

Lush, *n.* a green bough for beating, as above.

Lye, *n.* water in which wood-ashes have been infused.

Mag, (1) *n.* a scold, (2) *v.* to scold.

Maggit, *n.* a magpie.

Maiden-swarm, *n.* a swarm of bees coming from a swarm of the same year.

Market-peart, *adj.* half intoxicated.

Marl or **Marvil**, *n.* a marble.

Masonter, *n.* a mason.

Maul, *v.* to handle roughly or offensively.

Mawkin, *n.* a scarecrow; also a bundle of rags tied to a stick and used for cleansing the floor of an oven. (To prevent its setting on fire, the mawkin is first dipped in water.)

Mawl-stick, *n.* a heavy piece of wood used for driving stakes, &c., into the ground.

Mawsey, *adj.* over ripe; soft; dry rotten; or like a turnip which has lost all its moisture. 'As *mawsey* as a turmit,' is a common expression of contempt for a foolish person. 'You great *mawsey*' = 'You great fool.'

May-sick (barley), *adj.* an unkind appearance often presented by a crop of barley in May is called May-sickness.

Mesh-tub (mash-tub), *n.* a large tub in which the malt is steeped in hot water for brewing.

Mend-your-draught, *v.* = 'drink again.'

Mess, *n.* term of contempt for anything small or weak. 'It's a poor little *mess* uy a thing.'

Messengers, *n.* morsels of mould which come out with the beer from a cask that is nearly empty.

Metheglin, *n.* liquor made from honey. (Also called 'mead').

Middling, *adj.* unwell; indifferent. *Very middling*, very ill; very bad. *Pretty middling*, fairly well.

Miff, *n.* a misunderstanding. 'Went off in a *'miff'* = went away offended.

Millud, *n.* a miller. 'The *millud*, the mollud, the ten o'clock scollud.' A derisive song in use amongst school boys.

Mimmucking, *adj.* affected in manner; lacking heartiness; dainty in appetite.

Mishtiful, *adj.* mischievous.

Miss, *n.* loss. 'Sally a bin that spwiled, 'er don't knaow w'en 'er's well off.' 'Er'll feel the *miss* on it w'en 'er mother's dyud.'

Miskin, *n.* a dung-hill or refuse heap.

Misword, *n.* angry word. 'E wuz a good mon to me; we wuz morried farty year, an' 'e never so much as gin mū a *misword*.'

Mizzle, *v.* to rain slightly; to depart abruptly.

Mock, *v.* to imitate; to mimic.

Moggy, *n.* a calf.

Moil, *v.* to toil.

Moithered, *v.* to be dazed or delirious. 'Is yud a bin bad all night; 'e seems *moithered* like.'

Momble, *v.* to puzzle.

Momble, *adj.* puzzled; bewildered; worried.

Mommit or **Mommuck**, *n.* an untidily or absurdly dressed person.

Mommy, *n.* a repulsive shapeless mass. 'That good-fur-nothin' mon uv 'ern cum wum drunk an' knocked 'er about an' kicked 'er 't'll 'er face wus all uv a *mommy*.'

Mon-ondle (man-handle), *v.* to use the hands instead of levers, &c., in rolling trunks of trees or other heavy bodies.

Moon-daisy or **Moons**, *n.* the ox-eyed daisy.

Moorish (moreish), *adj.* of such good quality that more would be desirable.

Mop, *n.* a hiring fair.

Morris, *v.* to go away; to march off. 'Now you bwoys you'd better *morris*.'

Morris-dance, *n.* a dance performed by six or eight men bedecked with ribbons, to the music of the mouth-organ, or other homely instrument. In the neighbourhood of Pershore the morris-dancers go out for about ten days at Christmas-tide, accompanied by their musician and a 'tom-fool.' The 'tom-fool' carries in one hand a bladder tied to a stick, and in the other a kind of wooden spoon or bowl, in which he collects the contributions of the spectators.* In addition to this duty, he is supposed to amuse the bystanders with

* The writer well remembers the intense pleasure he used to experience (some fifty years ago) at the sound of "Ben the Drummer's" mouth organ and drum, and the "clack," "clack," of the Morris-dancers' sticks; taking care however to keep at a respectful distance, being unable to shake off the mysterious dread which he entertained of the "tom-fool" and his bladder.

funny sayings and antics. These, however, are often uncouth and rather deficient in fun. A gentleman (now deceased), who lived at Wick once remarked, 'I thought morris-dancers always had an artificial fool, but I see you have a natural one.' He also runs after the boys and (if he can catch them) strikes them with his bladder. Besides being ornamented with ribbons rather more fantastically than the dancers, the fool carries a small bell concealed somewhere about his person, which keeps up a constant tinkling. Sometimes also his face is painted after the fashion of the ordinary stage clown. The morris-dancers go through certain figures, country dances, 'the figure of eight,' &c.; and at certain parts of the tune stand face to face and mark the time with short sticks—one of which each man carries in his right hand—striking them together with a pleasant and not unmusical sound. In some of the dances each man carries, instead of the stick, a large coloured handkerchief, which at given parts of the tune he swings over his shoulder; and this action being performed simultaneously by all the dancers, the effect is picturesque and pretty.

Morum, *n.* a mechanical invention; an ingenious idea; boyish tricks, if somewhat clever or ingenious, are frequently called '*morums*.'

Mother, *n.* a kind of jelly which forms in vinegar; a large stone used by boys in a rough game called 'quack.'

Motty, *n.* a mark to aim at with marbles, or to shoot at.

Mouch, *v.* to go prying about. 'That aowd black cat gwuz mouchin' about, in an' out uv folkse's 'ousen; 'er 'll sure to get shot one uv thase days.'

Mould, *v.* to hoe up the earth to the roots of potatoes.

Mow, *n.* the part of a barn which is filled with straw, &c.

Mudgin, *n.* the fat off a pig's chitterlings. (Also called the '*tippit*'.)

Mullen, *n.* the bridle of a cart-horse.

Mullock (1) *n.* dirt; litter. (2) *v.* To make a litter.

Mullin, *n.* the bridle of a cart-horse.

Mumruffin, *n.* the long-tailed-tit.

Murfeys, *n.* potatoes.

Mwile, *v.* to bedaub with mud, &c.

My Nabs, 'I had some suspicion as 'e took some a thū eggs, so I took un 'id (hid) myself in the 'ens'-roost, an' I just ketched "my nabs" in thū act.'

- Nag**, or **Naggle**, *v.* to scold incessantly and unnecessarily.
- Naight**, *n.* an ait or eyot; an osier bed.
- Nail-passer**, *n.* a gimlet.
- Naint**, *n.* aunt.
- Nale**, *v.* to anneal; to soften or toughen iron (a blacksmith's term).
- Nalls**, *n.* belongings. 'Pick up your nalls and cut,' is a form of ordering an objectionable person to leave.
- Naowf** (an oaf) *n.* See *Aowf*.
- Nast**, *n.* dirt; filth.
- Nay-word**, *n.* a by-word.
- Near**, *adj.* mean; stingy.
- Nerrun**, *adv.* (never-a-one), not one.
- Nesh**, *adj.* tender; delicate; susceptible of cold.
- Nibbs**, *n.* the pair of handles to a scythe 'sned.'
- Nick**, *n.* a notch in the edge of a knife.
- Nicker**, *v.* to laugh rudely. 'Nickerin' an' grinnin,' laughing unseasonably and rudely.
- Nifle**, *v.* to nifle about, is to go from one job to another and to make little progress with either.
- Nifle-pin**, *n.* a pretended occupation, which is really an excuse for being idle.
- Nild**, *n.* a needle.
- Nile**, *n.* the shorter portion of a flail (or threshel).
- Nineted**, *adj.* notorious. Of a person of bad character, 'E's a nineted un, 'e is.' (Corruption of anointed.)
- Ninety-bird**, *n.* same as above.
- Ninkumpoop**, *n.* a silly, upstart fellow.
- Nip**, *v.* to go quickly; to make a short cut; *n.* same as *nick*.
- Nipper**, *n.* a youngster.
- Nisgull**, *n.* the smallest of a brood of poultry.
- Night-cap**, *n.* a pig's stomach (also called the 'tom-hodge').
- Nithering**, *v.* same as 'nickering'; also, shivering with cold.
- Nobby**, prefixed as a pet name to colts—nobby-colt.
- Noggen** (pronounced nogg'n), *adj.* clumsy.
- Nor**, *adv.* than (pronounced *nur*).
- Noration**, *n.* an oration; a speech.
- Nubblings**, *n.* small bits of coal.

Nun, *n.* a small piece of wood used in the game of bandy or hockey (also called a *cat*). See *Bandy*.

Nunch or **Nunchin**, *n.* luncheon.

Nuncle, *n.* uncle.

Nut, *n.* a small piece of iron to screw on the end of a bolt; a burr.

Nut, *n.* the head. 'I'll warm yer nut' = 'I'll punch your head.'

'Od-bowlud, *n.* See *Hod-bowl-ud*.

Odd, *adj.* strange; peculiar.

Odds, *v.* to alter. 'We none on us likes this place so well as w're we be used to live, an' we be sorry as ever us shifted; but we caunt *odds* it now.' 'What *odds* is it?' = 'Of what importance is it?' 'What *odds* is it to you?' = 'What business is it of yours?'

Ofil (offal), *n.* waste of any kind; the liver, heart, lungs, &c., of a pig.

Off-'is-yud, *adj.* mad; out of his mind.

Old-maid, *n.* a kind of fly which bites and torments cattle.

Old-man, *n.* Southern wood (a shrub).

Old-woman picking her geese, *v.* snowing.

Old yaow (ewe) **dressed lom** (lamb) **fashion**, *n.* an elderly woman dressed in the style of a juvenile.

'Ond-stick (hand-stick), *n.* the longer portion of a flail; the part held in the hand.

Onker (hanker), *v.* to covet or long for a thing.

'Ontoher, *n.* a handkerchief.

'Ontle, *n.* a handful.

Ööd-pile, *n.* a wood stack.

Öönderment (wonderment), *n.* a strange or wonderful story; or a 'nine days' wonder.'

Öönt, *n.* a mole. 'As slick as a öönt,' a common expression signifying very smooth.

Öös-bird, *n.* an illegitimate child.

Otheren, *adj.* alternate. 'Every *otheren* one' = 'every alternate one.'

Ourn, *pron.* ours.

Out-ride, *n.* a commercial traveller.

Oven-stoppliss, *n.* an oven lid.

Over-get, *v.* to recover from. 'It 'urt mū so w'en I buried my little un, that I didn't *overget* it all the summer.'

Out, 'making a *goodish out*,' or a '*poorish out*,' are terms applied to any undertaking when successful or the reverse.

Owlud, *n.* an owl.

Owlud's-quid, *n.* the remains of a mouse, bird, or other animal upon which an owl has made a meal, and having extracted all the fleshy portion, disgorges in a compact mass somewhat in the shape of the finger. (Labouring man disdainfully of a person who had mentioned somewhat ostentatiously having partaken of a finger-biscuit.) 'Finger biscuit! Why I cun remember the time w'en 'er ðōdn't a knaow'd a finger biscuit from a *owlud's quid*.'

Owner, *n.* the owner of a boat or barge, as *Owner Low*, *Owner Smith*, *Owner Rice*, &c.

Own to, *v.* to admit or to confess to having committed a fault.

Paddle, *n.* a kind of diminutive spade with a long handle. It is used by the farmer for the double purpose of a walking-staff, and for cutting up thistles or other weeds with which he may come in contact, as he goes about his fields.

Paout, *n.* a hard knock with a stick, or similar instrument, upon a hard substance.

Pass (applied to a bell), *v.* to toll the bell at the death of a person.

Peark, *n.* a lineal measurement of eight yards.

Peasy-pouse, *n.* peas and beans growing together.

Peart, *adj.* bright; lively; in good spirits.

Peckid, *adj.* peaked, pointed.

Pelt, *v.* to throw stones at a person; *n.* the skin.

Pendle (of a clock), *n.* the pendulum.

Perished, *adj.* pinched with cold. 'Come 'is ways, poor little saowl, he's amwust *perished*.'

Pick, *n.* a pick-axe.

Pick-up-his-crumbs = to regain health after sickness.

Pick-thank, *n.* a censorious person; one fond of finding fault.

Piddle, *v.* to make water.

Piddle-about, *v.* to do a little work in a leisurly manner and according to one's own choice. (Not much used now; to 'fiddle' about seems to have taken the place of this expression.)

Piece, *n.* (1) a field, as 'Read's Piece,' 'Withey Piece,' 'Glide Piece,' &c. (2) A slice of bread. 'I be famished, mother; gie mû a piece o' fittle.' (3) Contemptuous epithet. 'Er caunt do much, 'er's a very poor piece.'

Piece-o'-work, *n.* a fuss.

Pie-finch, *n.* a chaffinch.

Pigs'-puddings, *n.* See *Hogs'-puddings*.

Pigs'-wesh, *n.* pigs'-wash; the waste milk, broth, &c., reserved for the pigs.

Pikelet, *n.* a crumpet; a sort of cake composed of flour and water.

Piles, *n.* the beard of barley.

Piling-iron, *n.* an instrument used for detaching the piles from the grains of barley.

Pill, *n.* a shallow well, fed with surface water.

Pin, *n.* an iron or wooden peg.

Pinkit, *n.* a Will-o'-th'-wisp.

Pinner, *n.* a pinafore.

Pinsens, *n.* pincers.

Piss-a-bed, *n.* the Dandelion.

Piss-aint, *n.* an ant. 'Er screws 'er waist up till 'er looks like a *piss-aint*.'

Pitch-paowl, *v.* to turn head over heels.

Pitcher, *n.* the man who hands up the hay or corn to the loader.

Plaichers, *n.* the thick stems in a hawthorn hedge, which, when a hedge is 'laid,' are left at regular intervals as supports to the smaller wood. They are cut nearly through with a 'hacker' or 'bill-hook' a few inches from the ground, and fixed in an oblique position.

Plaichud, *n.* a plaicher.

Plim, *adj.* to swell in cooking. Bacon killed in the prime of the moon *plims*; that killed in the wane of the moon *boils out*.

Plim or **Plim-bob**, *n.* a plummet.

Plim, *v.* to fix upright by a plummet.

Plough-paddle, *n.* a paddle used for cleansing the plough.

Plough-shoe, *n.* a piece of iron fastened to the side of the 'throck' to prevent its wearing away with the friction with the soil.

Poke, *v.* to glean a cornfield a second or third time; *n.* the peak of a cap.

Poking, *v.* gleanng or leazing in a field a second time. (Probably so-called because most of the gleanings consist of ears of corn only, which have to be put into a poke or pocket.)

Porker or **Porket**, *n.* a pig suitable for killing for pork.

Pot, *n.* a measure of fruit or potatoes of about five pecks; a basket holding a pot.

Pot-fruit, *n.* such as will be sold by the pot; eating fruit, as distinguished from the rough sorts used for cider, &c.; it is usually 'hand-picked' (plucked from the tree by hand), not shaken off.

Prache-ment (preachment), *n.* an oration.

Pretty-Betty, *n.* a flower, also called London Pride.

Prise, *v.* to burst open, or raise up, with a lever.

Prompt, *adj.* a willing or spirited horse is said to be '*prompt*.'

Pry-omble, *n.* a rambling or obscure story, (? preamble).

Puck, *n.* a styte in the eye.

Puck-fyst, *n.* a dried up toadstool. 'I shūd like a drap o' drink, fur I feels as dry as a *puck-fyst*.'

Puffing-crumbs, *n.* soft pieces which often fall from loaves of bread when being taken from the oven.

Pug, *v.* to pull.

Pull-back, *n.* a hindrance.

Punk, *n.* a hard fungus frequently to be found on the trunk of a tree.

Purgatory, *n.* a pit underneath the fire-grate for the reception of the ashes.

Purgy, *adj.* peevish; short-tempered.

Pūt, *n.* a game played with three cards.

Put-about, *v.* to vex or worry. 'That upset along o' the naybers *pūt me about* above a bit.'

Putchen, *n.* an eel-basket, or trap.

Puthery, *adj.* hot; excited.

Pwuddlin'-about, *v.* doing a little work; making a pretence at work, &c. 'E don't do no good; 'e oondly *pwuddles* about in other folks's way.'

Pwud-luck, *n.* (port-lock?), a horizontal bar or beam of wood, one end of which rests in the wall and the other is attached to a scaffold pole, for the purpose of supporting the planks, &c., composing the scaffold used in the construction of a building.

Quack, *n.* a rough game played by boys. Each boy uses a large pebble called a '*quack*,' and one of them has to place his *quack* upon a larger stone called the *mother*; the others then throw at it until they succeed in knocking it off.

Quakers, *n.* quaking grass.

Quarter-barrel, *n.* a cask to hold 25 gallons.

Queer, *adj.* strange in manner. 'E's a *queer* quist; I caunt make 'im out.'

Quice or **Quist**, *n.* a wood pigeon.

Quick, *n.* young hawthorn plants.

Quiddle, *v.* to suck or 'quid' food in the mouth.

Quilt, *v.* to beat.

Quilting, *n.* a beating.

Qwine, *v.* to line a well with stones or bricks.

Qwining, *n.* the stone or brick lining of a well.

Qwirk, *n.* a small piece of leather forming a portion of the finger of a glove.

Qwop, *v.* to throb.

Rag-stone, *n.* a rough stone used for sharpening scythes, &c.
See *Rubber*.

Rain-bat, *n.* a beetle. (Among children there is a saying that killing one brings rain.)

Raisty, *adj.* rancid.

Rait, *n.* rubbish.

Rally, *v.* to crack or 'smack' a whip.

Ran-thread, *n.* pack-thread.

Random, *adj.* wild; prodigal. Applied to potatoes, &c., which grow up where no seed has intentionally been sown.

Raowt, *n.* rubbish.

Raowy (rowy), *adj.* streaky, as *raowy* bacon.

Ribbit, *n.* a rivet.

Rave, *v.* to bawl out passionately.

Rear, *v.* to rebound as a ball.

Riddle, *n.* a sieve; a sifter.

Riddliss, *n.* a conundrum or riddle.

Rider, *n.* a piece of wood with which a pair of harrows is connected.

Ridgel, *n.* a half gelded animal.

Right, *adv.* downright. 'Er's a right good 'öðman; there's no sart o' nonsense about 'er.'

Rime, *n.* hoar-frost.

Rip, *v.* to tear; to rend.

Rise, *v.* food is said to rise when the taste is repeated in the mouth after meals.

Rivle or **Rivel**, *v.* to shrivel or wrinkle, as 'he *rivelled* 'is brow.'

Road, *n.* fashion; manner. 'That yunt the right *road* to do it: stop a bit, an' let me shaow yū.'

Robble, *n.* a tangle; *v.* to tangle.

Ropy, *adj.* stringy.

Round, *n.* a spar or step of a ladder.

Rousle, *v.* to rouse.

Rowings, *n.* threads drawn out of a piece of calico, &c.

Rowings, *n.* chaff or refuse from a threshing machine.

Rowt, *v.* to bore into the earth with the snout, as a pig.

Roxed, *adj.* (of a pear), fully ripe and soft; (of a cough), loosened after being very tight and dry.

Rubber, *n.* a rough stone used for sharpening scythes.

'Whit a whet, the scythe won't cut,
The mower is so lazy.'

Ruck (1) *n.* a fold, or crease; (2) *v.* to crease.

Rucked-up, *adj.* caught up in folds; creased.

Ruff or **Rough**, *n.* hilly ground having trees growing upon it, as 'Great Comberton Ruff.'

Ruination, *n.* ruin.

Runner, *n.* the stone roller of a cider mill.

Saded, *adj.* tired. 'I'm sick an' saded o' my job, I caunt do 'im to me mind.'

Sallies, *n.* willow-boughs; willow trees.

Sally, *n.* the soft tufted portion of a bell-rope; the wood of the willow.

Sally-bed, *n.* a plantation of willows.

Sapy, *adj.* moist; damp; soft. 'We sh'll have a lot o' rain afore long, this piece o' thunk is as saft and *sapy*.'

Saw-box, *n.* a block of wood having two handles, which is fixed on to the lower end of a pit-saw, and by which the pit sawyer holds and guides his end of the saw.

Scawt, *v.* to push or press on the ground with the feet when lifting or forcing with the back or shoulder, or when coming to a sudden stop, if running. *v.* To boast; to give oneself airs. To place a stone or block behind the wheel of a cart or waggon when going up hill, to prevent its going backwards when the horses stop to rest.

Scog, *v.* to scold.

Scogging, *n.* a scolding.

Scootch, *n.* couch grass. (See *Squitch*.)

Score, *n.* the core of an apple or pear.

Score, *n.* twenty pounds. The weight of a pig is usually specified in *scores*.

Scowl-o'-brow, *n.* judgment by the eye instead of by measurement. 'I dun knaow what all them young chaps wants allus a mizsherin' thur work far. You can see that yat there, caunt yū? 'E 'angs well enough, don't ū? Well, I put 'im up onldy by *scowl-o'-brow*.'

Scrat, *v.* to scratch; to work hard; to scrape together. *n.* One who is industrious and frugal. 'Uf 'is wife 'adn't a bin sich a *scrat* thay ūd all a bin in the work-uss afore now.'

Scratchuns, *n.* the solid remains of a pig's leaf, &c., when the fatty portion has all been melted into lard.

Scrawl, *v.* to crawl.

Screech-owl or **Skreek-owl**, *n.* the Swift.

Scriggings, *n.* apples stunted in growth, which become ripe and sweet before the general crop of the same tree.

Scrobble, *v.* to creep along on hands and knees. To crawl.

Scrogging, *v.* gathering stray apples left on the trees after the main crop has been gathered.

Scroggings, *n.* the stray apples gathered as above.

Scruff or **Scurf**, *n.* the back of the neck.

Scud, *n.* a slight shower.

Scuffle, *n.* an agricultural implement employed in tearing up the ground; a skirmish.

Sess-him! *v.* said to a dog when urging him on to attack. (Probably from *seize*.) In sending a grey-hound after a hare, the starter cries 'Stoo-loo!'

Set, *v.* to let (a house, field, farm, &c.). 'Them be nice little 'ousen o' Pig-driver Graves's at the top o' the lane; I shüd like tū 'ave one on um, but I ricken thay be all *set* by now.'

Set, *v.* to plant, as trees, shrubs, &c. To plant beans, peas, wheat, &c., by hand with a *setting-pin*.

'Set gilliflowers, all
That grows on the wall.'

—*Tusser's Five Hundred Points of Good Husbandry*.

Shacklety, *adj.* shaky; all uv a shackle=very much out of repair.

Shade, *v.* to comb the hair. 'It means the parting of the hair on the head' (*Halliwell*). 'Akere look, Sally; thee just *shade* thee 'air, and nat look sich a great mawkin.'

Shaowl or **Shool,** *n.* a shovel.

Shard, *n.* a gap or opening in a hedge.

Sheed, *v.* to shed. Peas, beans, &c., are said to *sheed* when they are so dry and ripe that they fall out of the pods. *pp.*

Shud. 'That *shud* barley ud make a nation good crap, uf thay'd let it stond.'

Sherrog (shear-hog), *n.* a two-year-old sheep.

Shil-bwurd (shield-board), *n.* a board on the right hand side of a plough, which throws off the mould in even ridges.

Shindy, *n.* a scolding; a quarrel; a row.

Shirt-craw, *n.* the shirt front. 'As I wus a comin' to work this marnin', I fund a young Black-stare as ud tumbled out uv 'is nist. He wus all wet un amwust star'd to dyuth; but I picked 'im up, un put 'im in me *shirt-craw*, und when 'e got a bit warm, 'e come round agyun, so I took 'im back, un put 'im in 'is nist.'

Shog off, *v.* go away. 'Will you shog off now?' and 'shall we shog?' (*Shaksp., Hen. V. II., 1 and 4.*)

Shog-trot, *n.* a steady ambling trot.

Shookey, *n.* a tea-kettle.

Shrove-Tuesday is often called 'Saft-Choosdy,' and persons who happen to have been born on that day are sometimes twitted with the fact and called *Saft* or foolish in consequence. 'What's the use o' takin' eny notice o' what 'e sez? 'E was barn a *Saft-Choosdy*, un thay put batter in 'is yud instid o' brains.'

Shuck, *v.* to shake. A local wit speaks of election-time as '*ond-shuckin' time.*'

Shucked, *v.* shook.

Shucks, *n.* husks. 'Don't thraow them warnut *shucks* away, thay'll do to make some ketchup.'

Shull-out (shell-out), *v.* pay down your money.

Shut, *v.* to join. To *shut* a hoop, to join by welding; to *shut* a rope, to splice the broken ends.

Shut-his-knife, *v.* died. 'I ketched a young cuckoo last spring an' I kep' 'im t'll about October, but 'e *shut 'is knife* then.'

Shut-off, *v.* to leave off working.

Shut on, *v.* rid of. 'It took sich a lot to keep that dog o' mine, that I was glad to get shut on 'im.'

Shut-out, *v.* set out; started.

Sich-as-it-is (such-as-it-is) implies, when placing anything at the disposal of a neighbour, who might at the time be requiring it, 'It is the best I have, if it were better you would be equally welcome to it.' Sometimes however, the recipient will make the same observation, humorously implying that the proffered article is not of much value. (*Benjamin, the blacksmith.*) 'Good marnin', Master Phillips, I be agwain tū Elmley.' (*Master Phillips, an Elmley man.*) 'Bist? Then I'll 'ave thee company, *sich-as-it-is.*'

Sidda (siddler) *adj.* tender; applied to peas that boil well; ripe; unsafe, shaky; applied to scaffolding, &c., when in an unsafe condition.

Side-strakes, *n.* the side beams of a saw-pit.

Sid-lup, or **Sid-lop**, *n.* a box in which seed is carried by the sower in the field. (Seed-lepe, or seed-lip.)

Sight, *n.* a great quantity. 'We've 'ad a *sight* a rain this sason.'

Sill-green, *n.* the house-leek. (Sengreen in *Nares.*)

Silver-pin, *n.* the dragon-fly; also called the **horse-stinger**.

Silver-spoon-in-his-mouth. To be born with a silver spoon in the mouth, signifies to be born an heir to an inheritance; to have expectations of a fortune.

Singles, *n.* the shingles.

Sithe, *v.* to sigh.

Skeel, *n.* a tub or trough. **Butter-skeel**, a tub for washing butter. **Bread or dough skeel**, a tub or trough in which bread is made.

Skew-bald, *adj.* piebald.

'You shall find
Og, the great commissary, and which is worse
Th' apparatour upon his *skew-bal'd* horse.'

—*Cleaveland*, 1651.

Skim, *n.* an agricultural implement, the use of which is to cut or skim off the surface of the ground when covered with stubble, &c.

Skimmer-lad, *n.* a small pudding boiled on a skimmer.

Skimmington, *n.* a rough play got up for the annoyance of unpopular individuals. It usually consists of a procession, in which effigies of the objectionable persons are carried through the village accompanied by beating of tin kettles and other discordant noises. Under particular circumstances, certain articles of wearing apparel are carried on sticks, after the manner of flags or banners. The performance concludes with the burning of the effigies.* Samuel Butler (a native of Strensham, four miles from Pershore) gives a description of such a performance, in his 'Hudibras.'

Skip, *n.* a broad, shallow basket.

Skurruck, *n.* the smallest fraction. 'I say, Bill, 'ast got a mossil o' bacca to give away?' 'No, lad, I ain't got a *skurruck*; I'd a gan thū a bit in a minute else.'

Slaith, *n.* action; form; applied to manner of doing work. 'E a got a good *slaith* at 'is work,' signifies '*He is a good workman, doing his work well and quickly.*' (? Corruption of 'sleight.')

Slawns, *n.* sloes; the fruit of the black-thorn. (S in *slawns* is of course redundant, *slawn* being plural.)

Slender, *adj.* tall and thin. 'Two or three on 'em was a squobblin' anant the 'lotment gyardins; when out jumps Slenderman Collins from behind a kidney-byun stick, un soon put 'em to rights abit.' (Collins's nickname makes the point of the joke obvious.)

Slether, *v.* to slide.

Slice, *n.* a stirring stick.

Slinget, *n.* a narrow strip of ground. **Sling**, *n.* a narrow road.

Slipping, *n.* a slip or cutting off a plant.

Sliver, *n.* a slice of bread, cheese, or meat, &c.

Sloat, *n.* a thin bar of wood connecting two or more thicker bars, as the *sloats* of a harrow, or of a cart or waggon bed.

Slobber, *v.* to slop water; to drivel.

Slommuck, *v.* to shuffle along in an idle, ungainly manner.

Slop, *n.* a short linen jacket.

* A *Skimmington* performance took place at Little Comberton, as recently as the beginning of the present year (1893).

Slowness of Movement or of Locomotion, is sometimes referred to in terms more pointed than elegant. 'Look at 'im, 'e creeps along as ef dyud lice wus a drappin' off 'im.' 'I oonder where Charley is; 'ang'd ef 'e yunt all-us late; uv eny on yū sin im?' 'O oy, 'e wus a racin' the snails round the gyardin when I come by this marnin'.'

Slow-swift, *n.* a dawdler; one who is slow at work.

Sludge, *n.* liquid mud.

Small-clothes, *n.* a prudish name for breeches.

Smartish, *adj.* fairly well. A smartish bit = a good quantity.

Smock or Smock-frock, *n.* a garment of 'Russia-duck,' which used to be worn by farm labourers. It reached to the knees, and, as a rule, was closed all round with only an opening through which to pass the head. The 'slop,' has now almost entirely taken its place in this district.

Smock-faced, *adj.* modest looking.

Smudge, *v.* to kiss.

Smuff, *v.* to steal away marbles with which boys are playing.

Smuffter, *n.* one who steals marbles as above.

Snag, *n.* a root or other projection under water.

Snaowp, *n.* a thump.

Snarl, all-uv-a-snarl, chilly; uncomfortably cold.

Sned, *n.* the bent stick to which a scythe is attached, or 'hung.'

Snoffie, *v.* to speak with a nasal tone, or through the nose.

Snoffie for a duck, *n.* an imaginary instrument which a mechanic will say he is making when he does not wish to inform a too inquisitive inquirer what he really is occupied at.

Snowler, *n.* a blow on the head with the fist.

Snuggle, *v.* to lie close, as a baby to its mother.

Soard, *n.* (sword) rind of bacon.

Sockage or Sock (soakage) *n.* liquid manure.

Sock-cart, *n.* a cart for carrying liquid manure.

Solid, *adj.* serious; solemn. To 'look solid' is to refrain from smiling when telling or enacting a joke.

Soople-tree, *n.* a piece of wood by which the traces of a horse are connected with a plough or other implement.

So-say, for the *so-say* = for the name or sound of a thing, or, as a matter of form.

Sour ground, *n.* unfertile or ill-drained ground.

1 in 1/16 tree
1 in 1/16 tree

Souse, *n.* the ears, snout, of a pig, pickled. 'Brawn, pudding and souse' (*Tusser*).

Sow-thistle, *n.* a broad-leaved thistle.

Spade-crutch, *n.* the small cross piece of wood to form the handle at the top of the spade-tree.

Spade-tree, *n.* the wooden shaft of a spade.

Spaul, *n.* a splinter.

Spiggit-and-Fossit, *n.* a wooden tap. The *fossit* is the part inserted into the cask; the *spiggit* is the plug.

Spike-top, *n.* a peg-top.

Sprittle, *v.* to sprinkle or bespatter with mud, &c.

Spit, *n.* the quantity dug up with one insertion of a spade.

Splinter-bar, *n.* the bar of a double-shafted waggon to which the shafts are attached.

Spotched, *adj.* having pimples on the skin.

Sputter (1) *n.* a fuss. (2) *v.* To make a fuss about a trifle.

Spoon-fittle, *n.* food eaten with a spoon; as soup, bread and milk, &c.

Spot, *v.* to drop; to begin to rain. 'Mother, sh'll I get them there things in off the line? it *spots* o' rain.' *n.* A drop; 'a *spot* o' drink.'

Spreader, *n.* the stick or bar used to separate or spread out the traces worn by cart-horses.

Spud, *n.* a weeding hoe, or paddle.

Spuds, *n.* potatoes.

Squale (squeal), **Squawk** or **Squawl**, *v.* to scream.

Squib, *n.* a syringe. *v.* to syringe, or to squirt.

Squilt, *n.* a pimple or small eruption of the skin.

Squitch, *n.* (1) a twig. (2) Couch grass. (A squitch in salt = a rod in pickle.)

Squob, *n.* an unfledged young bird.

Squob, *v.* to mash up. 'Instid o' sellin' my curran's I *squobs* um up un' makes mü a drap o' wind (wine) ööth um.'

Staddle, *n.* the stand or platform on which a rick is built.

Stale, *n.* the handle of a broom, pitch-fork, rake, hoe, &c.

Standy, *adj.* an obstinate or unruly child.

Stank, *v.* to dam up a stream.

Star'd (starved) *adj.* cold. 'Well, I thinks I sh'll get in un' si by the fire; I a' stood out 'ere t'll I be amwust star'd.'

Starky, *adj.* dry and hard (the opposite of sapy). 'We shaunt a no rain, this piece o' thunk oodn't be so *starky* un 'ard else.'

Starven, *adj.* unable to bear cold. 'What a *starven* thing thū bist; if I wuz a thee I'd sit a top o' the fire.'

Stick-and-a-rag, *n.* an umbrella.

Sticks-in-'is-gizzud = remains in his thoughts (said of something which has given offence).

Stive up, *v.* to confine closely.

Stock, *v.* to peck as a bird. 'That maggit cun *stock* oncommon 'ard.'

Stock-axe, *n.* a tool resembling a pick-axe, but having flat ends for cutting, one end being in a line and the other at right angles with the helve or handle.

Stock-eekle, *n.* the Wood-pecker.

Stodger, *n.* a thick one, or a fat one.

Stodgy, *adj.* thick, or fat.

Stomach-ful, *adi.* stubborn; obstinate.

Stoop, *n.* a piece of wood fixed as a spur to a post for support.
v. To tilt a cask.

Store-pig, *n.* a young pig which is intended for pork or bacon.

Storm, *n.* a shower.

Strap-all (strap-oil), *n.* a mythical commodity, supposed to be retailed by a shoemaker, saddler, or leather dealer; its purchase being usually entrusted to some mischievous lad (probably on the first of April), who (if caught), receives, instead of oil, a few strokes from the tradesman's strap.

Stretch, *n.* an assertion, or a story expanded beyond the limits of actual veracity. The following little story will serve as an example:—(*Elderly individual, suspected somewhat of 'drawing the long bow,' to youth with fishing tackle, on his way to the Avon.*) 'I waund thee bist agwain a fishin'?' (*Youth.*) 'Yus, Josey, I be agwain to pwint at 'em a bit; you be used to goo sometimes didn't yū?' (*Josey.*) 'Oy bwoy, I a 'ad some very good sport too, at times. I cun remember a gooin' down to Bricklud Bank once, un I thinks Tasker Payne went along. (Doost remember oawd Tasker? Thay used tū call 'im Bo Naish [Beau Nash] 'cos 'a weared a white 'at.) Well we'd bin down afore, un baited a 'ole, un we started in the marnin' in smartish time ('cos thū knaowst it yunt a much use a gwainin uf yū don't get theare middlin' yarley); un we rather expected we sh'd a 'ad goodish luck,

but daas it, beyand two ar three nibbles we done nothin' at all for the fust hour. 'Owever, about five o'clock, summut took my float under as ef a auf hundud 'ad bin on the ind o' me line. So I picks up me rod un pulls, un the fish 'e pulls, und be 'anged ef it wusn't lucky fur me as I 'ad a good long line, 'relse, begad, e'd a pull'd mü into the river. Well, I let 'im 'ave a good run, so's to tire 'im a bit, thū knaowst; then I yuzzies 'im up like a bit; but lars, bless thū, I could find as 'ow I'd got summut on that there line bigger ner ever I'd ketched afore. So I sez to Tasker, sez I, "We sh'll 'ave a job to get this'n out look thū; just lay aowt o' the line un 'elp us to stiddy 'im oot?" Well, doost think Tasker un me cud get 'im out? No, no moore ner as ef it 'ad bin Oawd Ingleund 'ooked on to the line. A bit furdur along the bank thaough, was some Pawsha chaps, Mark Russell, oawd Red-nob Chucketts, un one er two moore. Thee rememberst Red-nob, doosn't? Ah! thee shood'st a sin 'im, lad, when Lard Coventry come uv age, when the Broad Street at Pawsha wus all full o' tables, un folks a sittin down to dinner at 'em. Plum puddin's brought up in waggin loads, bless thū, as true as I stonds 'ere. Lars, what a day it was! —Poor aowd Red-nob! I thinks I can see 'im now, a walkin' arm un arm along o' the young junneral, as ef 'a wus 'is akles ever so (a good sart wus the young junneral); down Pawsha Street in front o' Lard Coventry's carriage, un keepin' the tune along o' the musicianers ooth a 'ond-bell.' (Youth.) 'But what about the fish, Josey?' (Josey.) 'O! we all on us managed to get 'im out, un 'e wus a wopper, un no mistake! Well, there; he wus a dyull too big to carry; so we cut a piece out o' the middle on 'im, enough fur a good dinner apiece all round, un left the rest on 'im on the bank. I never sin sich a fish afore nar sense: they called 'im a "parpus," er a "grumpus," er summut o' that.' (Youth.) 'Aw! Aw! Aw! Well done, Josey, that is a *stretcher*! Perhaps I sh'll find 'is bwuns down ut Bricklund Bank. Aw! Aw! Aw!' (Josey.) 'That thee ootn't, fur Master Bomfud 'ad 'im took away in a cyart, un burned among a lot o' rubbidge. Thay sowed the aishes on a fild o' mangles, un Master Bomfud said to me, "Joseph" 'e sez, "that wus the best crap o' mangles that fild ever perduced (only they tasted rather fishy);" them wus 'is very words. But it's a gettin' late, lad; hadn'tst better be a gwainin? Mind un nat tumble into the wäter.'

Strickliss, *n.* a straight smooth stick with which surplus corn is struck off from the top of the bushel.

Stuck, *n.* (1) the handle of a cup or mug; (2) sheaves of wheat propped against each other in the harvest field.

Stuck-his-spoon-in-the-wall, *v.* died. Parallel to 'kicked-the-bucket,' or 'shut-his-knife.'

Stunner, *n.* an extra good one.

Sucked-in, *v.* cheated.

Summer, *n.* a stout beam of timber on which brickwork rests.

Summut = something (somewhat). 'Summut in 'is yud besides nits un lice,' said of a man who is ingenious, or more than ordinarily clever.'

Sup (1) *n.* a drop. 'Öötn't 'ave a *sup* o' cider, Tom?' (2) *v.* To sip. (3) To supply with supper. 'Jim went out last night to *sup* the 'osses.'

Swag, *v.* (of a line, a beam, or a bar) to bend downwards with its own weight; to sway; to swing.

Swale, *v.* to burn off the hair of a pig when killed for bacon. Porkers are scalded.

Swanky, *n.* very poor beer or cider.

Swarm, *v.* to gather round in a cluster. 'The pawson send (sent) me down to the school ooth a basket o' opples, an' w'en the young uns sin as I'd got summut far um, thay come *swarmin'* round mü like a passil (parcel) o' bees.'

Sweet-wort, *n.* the liquor in which malt has been infused, previous to the addition of the hops.

Swelth, *n.* swelling.

Swig, *n.* a drink; a draught. 'Ave a *swig* at my bwuttle uf thū bist adry.'

Swill, *v.* to flood with water.

Swingle-tree, *n.* same as soople-tree.

Swipes, *n.* sour beer or cider.

Swite, *n.* a blow with a stick; also a clumsy slice of bread, cheese, &c.

Swop, *v.* to exchange.

Sword, *n.* a bar of wood fixed to the shaft of a cart, and by means of which the 'bed' is prevented from tilting up too far when a load is being shot out.

Swyme, *v.* to feel giddy. 'I shūd be afeard to goo up to the top o' that there laddher, my yud ūd *swyme*.'

Tabber, *v.* to make a drumming noise; to tap with a stick or with the fingers. 'Ef thee shuds't want me, come un *tabber* my winder, look thū.'

Tabor-and-pipe, *n.* a rude musical instrument, or pair of instruments, consisting of a tabor, or tambourine, and a small pipe. The tabor was suspended from the left arm and beaten (taborered) with a small stick held in the right hand; the pipe held to the mouth and fingered with the left hand.

Tack, *n.* (1) Anything of little or no value; of inferior quality. (2) A collection of tools; a razor-grinder's machine is his *tack*; a smith's box of tools for shoeing horses is his 'shoeing tack,' &c., &c. (3) Foolish talk. (4) Hired pasture for cattle.

Tad, *n.* a disease to which rabbits are liable, caused by eating wet food. (The Tod.)

Tag, *n.* a game played by children; *v.* to touch (in the game of Tag). *n.* The metal end of a stay or boot lace.

Tail, *n.* inferior wheat.

Tail-board, *n.* the board with which the back of a cart or waggon is closed.

Tail-ind, *n.* (tail-end) the residue, after all the best portion has been taken away.

Talks, *v.* says. 'Is your ooman a gwain tū Asum to-day, Jums' (James)? (James.) 'Well'er talks a sholl, Betty; uf it keeps dry over yud 'owever.'

Tallit, *n.* a hayloft.

Tan, *v.* to beat, to chastise. 'Now, Thomas, let them there opples alone; I sh'll *tan* your 'ide else.'

Tang, *v.* to call bees (when swarming) by making a noise, usually with a fire shovel or warming pan and a door key. It is said that if bees fly away, whoever follows and *tangs* them can claim them wherever they may settle. *n.* The end of a scythe by which it is fixed to the 'sned' or handle.

Tant, *v.* to tempt, or to instigate. 'Why did you run away from school, Johnny?' (Johnny.) 'Cos Billy Taylor wanted to run away, un *tanted* me to goo ooth 'im.'

Tantony's fire, *n.* St. Anthony's fire. Erysipelas.

Tantrums, *n.* passionate actions; signs of rage and ill temper; frenzy.

Tap-wad, *n.* a kind of basket fixed inside the mash-tub to prevent the escape of the 'grains' when the wort is drawn off through the 'fossit.'

Tar, *v.* to tease.

Tasker, *n.* a man employed regularly in threshing corn with a flail.

Tater-ball, *n.* the fruit of the potato, which is round like a ball and contains the seeds.

Tater-bury, *n.* a heap of potatoes partially buried and entirely covered with earth, for protection from the frost.

Tater-pin, *n.* an instrument for making holes in the ground in which to plant potatoes.

Taw, *n.* the marble which is used by a boy to 'shoot' or 'bowl' with.

Tea-kettle-broth, *n.* bread and hot water, to which is added a little butter, herbs, and salt. (Pronounced 'Tae-kettle-broth.')

Tear along, *v.* to walk, or proceed at a rapid pace.

Teart, *adj.* sharp; painful. 'That cider o' yourn's a bit *teart*, master; it's nation good else.' 'The wind's *teart* this marnin', an' no mistake.' I run a shuppick into my füt; 'twas mighty *teart*.'

Ted, *v.* to spread hay.

Teeny, or **Tiny**, *adj.* small. Employed to emphasise small or little, as 'a little *teeny* apple,' 'a *tiny* little babby,' &c., &c.

Teg, *n.* a sheep of a year old.

Tempest, *n.* a thunderstorm. 'My! don't it look black? we sh'll 'ave a *tempest* afore night surelie!'

Terrify, *v.* to torment. 'E caunt get a wink o' sleep uv a night; 'is cough *terrifies* 'im so.'

Thatten, *adj.* that one.

Thave (theave) *n.* a yearling ewe.

Thick-headed, *adj.* stupid. (*Young fellow, fitting on himself a neighbour's hat.*) 'There yunt much odds in our two yuds, is a Thomas?' (*Thomas.*) 'No lad, only mine's a long un, un thine's a *thick* un.'

Thick, *adj.* on very friendly terms. Plentiful. *Thick on the ground* = crowded.

Thief-in-the-candle, *n.* a part of the wick protruding from the main portion, and causing the candle to burn unevenly.

Thissen, *adj.* this one.

Thrave, *n.* a quantity of straw, consisting of twenty-four 'boltings.'

Threshel, *n.* a flail.

Thribble, *adj.* three-fold; treble.

Thripples, *n.* movable wreathes, attached to a cart or waggon.
See *Wrathes*.

Throck, *n.* the lower part of a (wooden) plough. On the end of the *throck* the ploughshare is fixed.

Throw-back, *v.* to give discount; *n.* the discount given.

Thrum, *adj.* See *Frum*.

Thumb-piece, *n.* a piece of bread with cheese or meat, held between the thumb and finger.

Thunk, *n.* a thong; the leather of which whips are made.

Tice, *v.* to entice. 'I wish I 'ad never set eyes on that there Preedy. 'E. a *ticed* ower Jim away from 'is place ooth 'is tales about saowdierin!' (soldiering)!

'**Tick-tack, never change back, touch cold iron,**' is the binding sentence upon the completion of an exchange or a swop by boys; at the same time touching a piece of cold iron with the finger.

Tiddle, *v.a.* to tend carefully. 'The pawson gan mū a cuttin' o' that geranium, un' I *tiddled* 'im all the winter; so I a got mū a tidy tree now, look.' Proverb, 'You may *tiddle* a monkey 'till 'e befouls your trenchud.'

Tiddling, *n.* a lamb or other animal brought up by hand.

Tiddy, *adj.* babyish.

Tiddy-obbin's nist, *n.* 'What bist thee a loffin' at? I sh'd think thee 'adst fund a *tiddy-obbin's* nist un wus a loffin' at the young uns.' Or, 'What bist a *tiddy-obby-in*' at, I sh'd like to knaow?' (*Tiddy-obbin* is probably derived from *Little Robin* in the language frequently used in talking to babies.)

Tiddy-obby-in, *v.* laughing.

Tidy, *adj.* well in health; of good quality; a quantity, &c. 'E a got a *tidy* way tū walk afore a gets wum.' 'Ow be you to-day?' 'Pretty *tidy*.' 'The 'oss looks pretty *tidy*.'

Tidli-wink, *n.* a small public house, licensed only for the sale of beer, cider and tobacco.

Tiller (of a pit saw), *n.* the handle by which the top sawyer guides the saw.

Tilt, *n.* a canvas roof or cover to a cart or waggon.

Tind, *v.* to kindle. 'I tried to *tind* my pipe, but the wind blaowed so I couldn't manage it.'

Tine, *n.* See *Tyne*.

Tipty-toe, *prep.* on tip-toe.

Tissick, *v.* to cough. 'Grannie, 'er keeps *tissickin'* all the while.'

Tippit, *n.* the fat off a pig's chitterlings (also called the 'mudgin').

Titter, or **Titter-a-totter**, *n.* a see-saw; *v.* to laugh slightly.

Tom-and-Jerry, *n.* a beer-house.

Tom-fool, *n.* the fool (artificial or otherwise) who accompanies the morris-dancers.

Tom-hodge, *n.* a pig's stomach. (Also called the 'night-cap.')

Tom-tit, *n.* the blue-tit.

Tommy, *n.* food.

Tommy-bag, *n.* the bag in which labourers carry their food. Also called a 'fittle-bag.'

Tong-pole, *n.* the beam by which the fore and hind wheels of a waggon are connected.

Too-iron (tue-iron), *n.* the short iron tube at the back of a blacksmith's forge, into which the nozzle of the bellows is inserted.

Topping-and-Tailing, *v.* trimming turnips, gooseberries, &c.

Tosty-ball, *n.* a cowslip ball.

Tot, *n.* a small mug.

Tottery, *adj.* infirm. 'I've 'ad the rheumatic very bad this three wiks, an' I be that tottery I caunt 'ardly scrawl.'

Touch. To have a *touch* at anything is to enter upon any particular work or job, in such a way as to give it a short trial.

'Touch him with a short stick.' A jocular expression used when speaking in company of a person who is present, but whose name it is not intended to mention; thus, 'I heerd uv a mon as went to bed one night, nat long ago, un forgot to take 'is shoes off; I wunt say who it was, but I could *touch 'im ooth a shart stick.*'

Tow-chain, *v.* a strong chain used for hoisting timber, &c.

Towsle, *v.* to shake or tumble anything about as haymakers do the hay, or as children playing amongst hay or straw.

Trace-horse, *n.* a horse which draws in traces, as distinguished from one in the shafts.

Traipse, *v.* to leave muddy or wet footprints on the floor. 'Now you young uns, I wunt 'ave yū a *traipsin'* in an' out o' this 'ere kitchin look; I may just as well a done nothin' as to a claned the flur else.'

Tram, *n.* a strong square frame with four legs on which a wheelwright makes wheels; also a stand for casks.

Trammel, *n.* a kind of fishing net.

Transum, *n.* a piece of timber placed across the end of a saw-pit (resting on the 'side strakes') to support the end of the log to be sawn up.

Trenchud (trenchard), *n.* a trencher; a wooden platter.

Triggle, *n.* trigger (of a gun).

Trimmer, *n.* a kind of fishing line attached to a large float, which turns over when a fish is hooked.

Tringle, *v.* to trundle (a mop, &c.).

Troves, *n.* plural of trough.

Trunkey, *n.* a small fat pig.

Trusten to, *v.* to trust to or in.

Tumbrel, *n.* a cart without springs, constructed so as to be easily removed from its wheels. 'Tumbrell, cart, waggon and wain' (*Tusser*).

Tump, *n.* a mound or hillock; a small hay-rick.

Tun-dish, *n.* a funnel for filling bottles.

Tun-pail, *n.* a large pail, with a tube at bottom by means of which casks are filled.

Tup, *n.* a ram.

Turmits, *n.* turnips.

Tush, *n.* (1) the broad part of a plough-share, (2) a tusk; *v.* to draw a heavy weight, as of timber, &c.

Tushes, *n.* tusks.

Tushing-wheels, *n.* a pair of wheels between which heavy trunks of trees, &c., are slung for removal.

Tussuck, *n.* a bunch or cluster of rank grass.

Tutty, *adj.* touchy, short-tempered.

Twang, *n.* accent; manner of speaking; dialect. 'Who be them two chaps, John?' 'Oh, they be two young Jarmans (Germans) as be a stoppin' at ower vicar's: they be come over 'ere just to get aowt (hold) uv ower *twang*.'

Two-faced, *adj.* deceitful. 'Here's wishing the mon may never get fat, as carries two faces under one hat.'

Two-folks, *n.* at variance. 'Now, Jack, yū lazy rascal, uf thee doosn't get on o' thy work, thee un I sh'll be *two-folks*.'

Two-shear-sheep, *n.* a sheep old enough to be shorn a second time.

Tye, *n.* a chain with which horses are fastened by the fore-foot to one spot to feed.

Tye-beetle, *n.* a large wooden mallet used to drive the 'tye-pin' into the ground.

Tyne, *n.* the prong of a fork; the spike or prong of a harrow.

Unbeknowns-to-him = without his knowledge; surreptitiously.

Un-gain, *adj.* ungainly, clumsy, awkward, inconvenient. See *Gain*.

Unkid, *adj.* lonely. 'Thay lives right up at the top o' the common, where there be no more housen enny wer' near. It's a *unkid* sart of a place: but nat a bad 'ouse else.'

Unkyind, *adj.* unfavourable, unhealthy. 'The byuns don't graow a bit, they seems so *unkyind*.'

Up-an-ind, *p.* in a sitting posture; generally employed when speaking of sitting up in bed. 'I heerd summut a makin a craking naise last night, atter we'd gwun to bed, and so I sat *up-an-ind* and listened, fur I thought sumbwuddy 'ad got in, but I fund as it was only the cat a sharpin' 'er claes on the flur.'

Up-set, *v.* to thicken a bar of iron by heating the centre and beating up the ends (a blacksmith's term).

Urchin, *n.* a hedgehog.

Uyver, *adj.* upper.

Uyvermust, *adj.* uppermost.

Yoid, *adj.* empty. An empty house is said to be *void*.

Wad, *n.* a small hay-cock.

Wake, *n.* an annual village festival, usually occurring on the anniversary of the dedication of the parish church.

Walk-into, *v.* to attack pugnaciously and successfully. (This simile is used only when the attack is made either in self-defence, or after receiving provocation.)

Wallet, *n.* a bag in which migratory labourers carry their provisions, &c.

Wally, or **Wolly**, *n.* rows into which hay is raked.

Wane, *n.* (*adj.* waney) the natural unevenness of the edges of boards.

Warm, *v.* to beat. 'Let me ketch thū a doin' that agyun look, an' I'll *warm* thū!' 'I'll *warm* thee yūd,' or, 'I'll *warm* thee nut,' = 'I'll punch your head.'

Warmship, *n.* warmth. 'There's a dyul a *warmship* in my aowd shawl.'

Warnuts, *n.* walnuts.

Warty-wells, *n.* the horny protuberances on the inner sides of horses' legs.

Washer, *n.* thin round plate of iron placed on a bolt underneath the nut, to prevent the latter from cutting against the substance through which the bolt is passed.

Washings, *n.* inferior cider, made by grinding up a second time (mixed with water), the 'husk' or 'cake' of apples from which the juice has already been extracted.

Watchered, *adj.* wet; having wet feet (? corruption of *wetshod*).

Wattle-and-dab, *n.* lath and plaster, or wicker-work and plaster.

Wattles, *n.* the strips of wood used to keep thatch in its place.

Watty, or **Watty-onded**, *adj.* left-handed.

Wave-wind, *n.* the wild convolvulus.

Wax-ind (**wax-end**), *n.* the waxed thread used by shoemakers.

Way-broad-leaf, *v.* a broad-leaved wild plant, common on the road sides.

Wazzun, or **Wazzund** *n.* the windpipe.

Well-ended, *adj.* said of crops safely carried and not injured by the weather.

Well-pole, *n.* a pole having at the end a hook, with which the bucket is lowered into the well for the purpose of bringing up water.

Welly, *adv.* nearly.

Wench, *n.* a girl.

Wenching, *v.* courting.

Went, *v.* frequently used for 'gone.' 'I oodn't a *went* to Pawsha fair, if I'd a thought a 'avin' my pocket picked.'

Werrit, or **Worrit**, *v.* to worry; *n.* one who worries; a person of anxious temperament.

Wesh-tub, or **Wash-tub**, *v.* a tub into which broth, vegetables, sour milk, and all kinds of kitchen refuse are emptied; and so become pig's wesh (or wash), *i.e.*, food for the pigs. 'I byunt agwain to make a *wesh-tub* o' my belly, by drinkin' sich stuff as that.'

What d'yu call mū that? = What is it you have there?

'**What part o' the play be you agwain to act?**' = 'What portion of the business are you going to undertake?'

Whiffle, *v.* (of the wind) to blow lightly through a crevice, or among standing corn, &c.

Whimmy, *adj.* full of whims.

Whinnuck, *v.* to cry fretfully.

White-al, *n.* a white marble.

Whosen, *pron.* whose.

Wift, *n.* a whiff (as of tobacco, &c.). 'I thinks I sh'll 'ave a *wift* a bacca.'

Will-jill, *n.* an hermaphrodite.

Will-o'-the-wisp, *n.* the ignis fatuus. Also known as *Aw-puck* (Hob-puck), *Hobbady-lantern* (Hob-and-his-lantern), *Jack-o-lantern*, *Pinkit*, &c.

Wimble-straw, *n.* a very slender straw.

Wimbling, *adj.* of slender growth, as applied to a plant or a stalk. 'Wer did I get thase ere big taters from? well, I'll tell yū. Ower Tom un I wus at work in the brickyard look, un a bwutman as 'ad come up the river from Gloucester, thraowed two or three goodish taters out o' the bwut; so we picks 'em up un peels 'em fur dinner. Well, atter we'd peeled 'em we thraows the peelin' on to a yup o' rubbidge, bricks' inds un that, un thought no moore about it. Well, in a faow wicks' time I siz a bit uv a *wimblin'* top a comin' up among the bricks' inds, un I sez to Tom, sez I, "Now we wunt touch that theare tater, but we'll wait un see what sart uv a one 'e is, look thū." So when it wus time to dig um up (there seemed to be a smartish faow at the root), we dug round um keerful like so as nat to spwile eny on um, un uf you'll believe me, thay wus the biggest taters as I ever sin. The biggest on um wus so 'eavy that ower Tom un I 'ad to carry 'im away between us on a 'ond-borrow [hand-barrow]. Now, chaps, let's 'ave another 'arn o' cider un get on.'

Winding-sheet (in the candle), *n.* a small piece of tallow, which, being slightly harder than the main portion of the candle, does not melt as rapidly, but curls downwards on one side. It is supposed to portend a death.

Winkers, *n.* blinkers; the pieces or plates of leather, attached to horses' head-gear, to prevent their seeing anything on either side.

Withy, *n.* willow.

Wollop, *v.* to beat.

Wobbling, *adj.* an uneven, unsteady motion.

Wonderment, *n.* See *öönderment*.

Wrathes (wreathes), *n.* a kind of rack projecting horizontally round the top of a waggon or cart; by means of which, straw, hay, &c., can be carried in larger quantities and with greater security.

Wretch, *n.* often used as an expression of endearment or sympathy. (*Old woman to young master.*) 'An' 'ow is the missis to-day, poor *wretch*?' Of a boy going to school a considerable distance off: 'I met 'im ööth a bit o' bread in 'is bag, *poor wretch.*'

Wrist (Wrest or Rest) (of a plough), *n.* a piece of wood below the shield-board, which wrests the earth aside from the plough.

Yard-land, *n.* a system under which male paupers worked for a given time alternately, on the several farms in the parish to which they belonged.

Yat, *n.* a gate.

Yat-pwust, *n.* a gate post.

Yat-pwust-singing, *v.* each person in a company, singing a different song at the same time.

Yaux, *v.* to cough, or expectorate. 'I don't want no bacca smokers in my kitchen, *yauxin'* an' spettin' about.'

Yourn, *pron.* yours.

Yud, *n.* the head.

Yun, *v.* (of a ewe) to ean.

EXAMPLES OF LOCAL PRONUNCIATION OF ORDINARY WORDS.

A is prefixed to active verbs, as 'he's *a*-coming,' '*a*-talking,' '*a*-ploughing,' '*a*-shearing,' &c., &c.; to some adjectives, as '*a*-dry' (thirsty), '*a*-cold,' '*a*-ongry' (hungry), &c. It has also sometimes to do duty for '*on*,' as '*a*-top,' '*a*-fut' (afoot), 'The world runs *a*-wheels' (*Ben Jonson*); for '*in*,' as '*a*-bed,' &c.

'That night he sat well sore akale,
And his wif lai warme *a*-bedde.'

The Sevy'n Sages, 1518 (quoted by Halliwell).

'*a*-two,' for in two, 'cut it *a*-two ooth thee knife,' 'A short saw, a long saw, to cut *a*-two logs' (*Tusser*); and for 'he,' 'she,' 'it,' 'has,' &c., as 'E's a good sart of a chap, yunt *a*?' 'Er caunt do sich a job as that, like a mon, con *a*?' (*Answer*.) 'That *a* con;' comp. *Shakesp. Hen. V.* iii. 2, also ii. 3. 'This tree *a* got a good crap o' opples on 'im, aant *a*?' Some prepositions have *a* prefixed to them, as *a*-near, *a*-nigh—

'All that come *a*-near him,
He thinks are come on purpose to betray him.'

(*Beaumont & Fletcher*.)

'Don't you get *anigh* them osses, Johnny; they'll kick yū.'

Accud, *adj.* awkward. 'It's pocky *accud*,' is a common expression for 'it is very awkward.'

Accun, *n.* acorn.

Acrass, *prep.* across.

Adland, *n.* headland. The strip of land left at each end of a field, at right angles with the ridges, or lands. See *lands* (p. 20).

A-dreamed, *v.* 'I was *a*-dreamed' for 'I dreamt.' 'I was *adreamed* that I killed a buck' (*Lupton's Thousand Notable Things*).

Afeard, *adv.* afraid.

Afrawl, *prep.* for all; in spite of. 'Now, Billy, thee cossn't come this a-road.' (*Billy*.) 'I sh'll come *afrawl* thee.'

Aften, *adv.* often.

Agoo, *adv.* ago.

'And yett not lowng *agoo*
Was precharas one or tooe.'

Vox Populi, Vox Dei, 1547-8.

Agyun, *prep.* against; *adv.* again.

Ail, *n.* oil.

Aish, *n.* ash.

Aishes, *n.* ashes.

Akles, *n.* equals.

All-us, *adv.* always.

Allyblaster, *n.* alabaster.

A-mwust, *adv.* almost.

Ankitcher, *n.* handkerchief.

Ankley, *n.* ankle.

Archud, *n.* orchard.

Arg, or **Argal**, *v.* to argue; to dispute. 'Er argald me out, as your new shawl was blue, un it's green now, yunt it?' 'Ile arg, as I did now, for credance again' (*Heywood*, 1556; see *Nares*). Gaelic *Iargall*, a skirmish, a fight. (*Mackay*.) *Comp. Shakesp., Ham.*, v. 1.

Arn, *n.* horn.

Arnary, *adj.* ordinary; usually signifying 'not handsome.'

Arrand, *n.* errand.

Art to, *adv.* ought to.

Arter, or **Atter**, *prep.* after.

Asp, *n.* The Aspen Tree.

Attackted, *v.* attacked.

Atternone, *n.* afternoon.

Aurrust, *n.* harvest.

Ayfer, *n.* heifer.

Bag, *v.* beg. (*Boy, to facetious labourer*.) 'Ave you got a wife, Willum?' (*F. L.*) 'Oy bwoy, I a got two wives; one gwuz out a *baggin'*, un thū tuther stops at wum tū swurt the fittle.'

Bagger-mon, *n.* beggar-man.

Bagger-ooman, *n.* beggar-woman.

Baily, *n.* bailiff.

Banes, or **Byuns**, *n.* beans.

Biff, *n.* beef.

Blaht, *v.* bleat.

Brenth, *n.* breadth. **Brende**, to make broad; to spread about.
(*Halliwell*.)

Broccilo, *n.* broccoli.

Bruck, *n.* brook.

Bruddy, *adj.* broody.

Bust or **Busted**, *v.* burst. 'Tho bwiler o' the stem injin *busted* this marnin', so we caunt goo on o' the threshin.'

Bwile, *v.* or *n.* boil.

Bwun, *n.* bone.

Bwurd, *n.* board.

Bwut, *n.* boat.

Bwuth, *adj.* both.

Bwuttle, *n.* bottle. A small wooden cask, holding from two to four quarts (sometimes larger) in which a labourer carries his day's supply of cider. It is usually painted blue or lead colour.

Byum, *n.* beam.

Byun, *n.* bean.

Byut. *v.a.* to beat; *pp.* beaten.

Caowd, *adj.* cold.

Caowt, *n.* colt.

Card or **Kwerd**, *n.* cord.

'All up to the chimbly top,
Athout a ladther, *kwerd* or rop.'

Carn or **Kwern**, *n.* corn.

Carpse, *n.* corpse.

Cavaltry, *n.* cavalry.

Chaney, *n.* china. 'The cubbud (cupboard) fell down look, un broke all Nell's *chaney*.'

Chape or **Chup**, *adj.* cheap.

Chate or **Chut**, *v.* cheat.

Chayce, *adj.* choice.

Cheer, *n.* chair.

Childun, *n.* children.

Choke, *n.* chalk.

Churm, *n.* or *v.* churn.

Claes, *n.* claws.

Clat, *n.* clod.

Clauss, *prep.* close; *n.* a field, as 'Broad-clauss,' 'Shuppud's-clauss.'

Coom, *n.* or *v.* comb.

Coo-wut, *n.* coat.

Cosses, *v.* costs.

Cowlups, *n.* cowslips. Going 'a Cowluppin' and 'Fire-lightin',' is going gathering cowslips and violets.

Cracks or **Crackery-ware**, *n.* crocks, crockery. (*Farmer, having finished his tea.*) 'Now, Mary, put thase 'ere cracks away.'

Craft, *n.* croft, a field; as 'Pitch-craft' (Pitch-croft), 'Mung-craft' (Mount-croft), &c.

Crap, *n.* crop. 'Ther's a good *crap* o' pears on Josey Pugh's pear-tree, yunt a?'

Crass, *adj.* cross.

'Crass-patch, draw the latch, sit at the fire and spin;
Take a sup, and drink it up, and call your neighbours in.'

Crem, *n.* cream.

Cuffer, *n.* coffer (a chest).

Cyart, *n.* cart.

Cyart-uss, *n.* cart-house.

Daow, *n.* dew.

Daunce, *v.* to dance.

Dern, *v.* to darn.

Disgest, *v.* digest.

Dizzen, *adj.* dozen. 'Do lave off chattering oot? Thy tongue runs nineteen tū the *dizzen*.'

Dowsty, *adj.* dusty.

Drap, *n.* or *v.* drop. 'A *drap* o' cider's the best thing tū squench yer thust.' 'Stop that naise oot? I'll *drap* it on thū else.'

Drownd, *v.* to drown.*

* George Hawker was employed with other men in cleaning out the large fish-pond at Elmley, and by some means or other, through stooping down to do something to his feet, his hands as well as his feet got stuck in the mud,

Dyudly, *adv.* deadly (*i.e.*, very), as 'dyudly-good taters,' 'a dyudly-clever mon' (man), &c.

Dyull, *v.* to deal; *n.* a quantity.

Eckth, *n.* height.

Erriwig, *n.* earwig.

Errun, *pron.* ever a one.

Ex, *v.* ask. (The original Saxon form was *Ax*, so used by Chaucer, Bale, Heywood, and others.—*Nares*.)

Exter, *adj.* extra.

Fallies, *n.* felloes of a wheel.

Faow, *adj.* few.

Farry, *v.* to farrow, or *n.* a litter (of pigs only).

Fatches, *n.* vetches.

Fater, *n.* or *v.* feature. 'That little un *faters* 'is father, don't a now?'

Fawt, *n.* fault.

'And of all this sequell

The *fawt* I cane not tell.'—*Vox Populi*.

When the cider or ale cup is at a standstill at a festivity, one of the party will say to the one whose turn it is to drink, 'Now then, it's your *fawt*.'

Fearn, *n.* fern.

Fild, *n.* field.

Fill-beard, *n.* filbert.

Filler, *n.* thiller; the shaft horse. 'Thou hast got more hair on thy chin than Dobbin, my *phill horse*, has on his tail' (*Shakesp.*, *Mer. Ven.*, ii. 2).

Fire-lights, *n.* violets.

Fit, *n.* feet.

and he was quickly in a dangerous position; for although the water had been drawn off, there was still sufficient left to cover him in a very little time, he being but a short man, in a stooping posture, and gradually sinking deeper and deeper. Fortunately, one of his butties (I think it was George Taylor), was a tall powerful man, and he, seeing George's awkward predicament, stalked up to him and seizing him by his waistband, lifted him bodily out of the mud. His companions gathered round him, exclaiming, 'Why, Jarge, you'd soon a bin *drowned*.' 'Drowned be d—d,' replied George, 'I'd a drunk that drap fust.'

Fittle, *n.* victuals. (*Vittle* in *Tusser*.)

Flaes, *n.* fleas. 'Well, I thinks I sh'll take the *flaes* their fittle'
(a whimsical mode of expressing the intention to go to bed).

Flannin, *n.* flannel.

Fleshy, *adj.* fledged.

Flur, *n.* floor.

Fother, *n.* fodder.

Fowt, *v.* fought. 'Ower dog un Dame Wright's cat *fowt* istady,
un didn't 'er scrat 'im ooth 'er claes?'

Fund, *v.* found.

Furder, *adj.* further. *Furder* a-fild (a-field) = Farther off.
'This brethren wendeth *afeld*' (*MS. Bodl.* 652, f. 2).

Furlun, *n.* furlong.

Fust, *adj.* first.

Fut, *v.* foot.

Gaish, *n.* a gash.

Gallund, *n.* gallon.

Goold, *n.* gold.

Grace, *n.* grease.

Grace-arn, *n.* grease-horn.

Gwun, *v.* gone.

Gyum, *n.* game.

Hawves, *n.* haws.

Him, or 'im is commonly used for 'it.'

His-self, *pron.* himself.

Hongry, *adj.* hungry. 'A 'ongry dog 'll yut dirty puddin'.—
Proverb.

Ind, *n.* end.

Iss, *adv.* yes.

Istady, *adv.* yesterday.

It, *conj.* yet.

Jice, *n.* joist.

Jine, *v.* join.

Kay, *n.* key. See also *Kyoy*.

Keard, *n.* card.

Kep, *v.* kept.

Ketch, *v.* catch.

Kiver, *v.* cover.

Kwert, *n.* court, or *v.* to court.

Kwertin', *v.* courting. 'Where's Samiwell, Thomas?' (*Thomas*.)
'O, 'e's gwn a-kwertin', I ricken, fur 'e put on 'is tuther
'at un coowut, un tiddivated his-self up a bit.'

Kyoy, *n.* key; or (in music) tune. (*Critic to amateur musicians*.)
'Yū byunt in *kyoy*, be yū?'

Ladge, *v.* lodge.

Ladther, *n.* ladder.

Laird, *n.* lard.

Laish, *n.* lash.

Laiter, *v.* loiter.

Lane, or **Lee-yun**, *adj.* lean, or *v.* to lean.*

Layer, *n.* lawyer.

Lazin, or **Lee-uz-in**, *v.* leasing (gleaning).

Lenet, *n.* linnet.

Lines, *n.* loins. 'I a got sich a pain across my *lines* I caunt
'ardly stond up.'

Loff, *v.* laugh. To 'loff o' the tother side o' the mouth' means
'to cry.'

Manin', or **Myunin'**, *n.* meaning.

Marter-bwurd, *n.* mortar-board.

Mishtif, *n.* mischief.

Mizsher, *v.* or *n.* measure.

Mossy, *n.* mercy. 'Lars a' *mossy*! who'd a thought o' seein
you 'ere.'

* Persons bearing the surname of 'Lane' are not unfrequently nick-named 'Raowy' as a prefix, thus becoming 'Raowy Lane,' which, in the local dialect, signifies 'rowy lean,' referring to bacon so called when it has layers of lean and fat alternating (the 'streaky' bacon of Londoners). In connection with this subject, the writer is reminded of a villager who was sometimes twitted with feeding and starving his pig on alternate days for the purpose of producing bacon having this desirable quality.

Mossil, *n.* morsel. A person chancing to make a call upon a neighbour at meal-time, would probably be invited to partake of his hospitality thus: 'We be a gwain to 'ave a *mossil* o' fittle look; ool yū come in un jine us?'

Mult, *v.* moult.

Mwire, *n.* mire, mud; *v.* to bedaub with mud.

Naise, *n.* noise.

Nat, *adv.* not.*

Natch, *n.* notch.

Nist, *n.* nest.

Ontle, *n.* handful.

Ood, *n.* wood.

Ooden, *adj.* made of wood; also, clumsy or ungainly.

Ool, *v.* will. 'I ool' = I will.

Ooth, *prep.* with.

Opiniated, *adj.* opinionated.

Opple, *n.* apple.

Oss, *n.* horse.

Paes, *n.* peas.

Pale, *n.* peel. A kind of wooden shovel with which loaves of bread are placed in, or removed from, the oven.

Paowl, *n.* pole.

Peth, *n.* pith.

Pibble, *n.* pebble.

* The following little incident will serve to illustrate the use of the word *nat*, and will also give a glimpse, as it were, of the relations existing between pastor and people at the time of its occurrence. The late rector of Little Comberton, the Rev. W. Parker—one of the kindest, gentlest, and most tender-hearted of men, for whose memory I entertain the deepest feelings of gratitude and reverence—was assisting in distributing the prizes at the Annual Flower Show (on that occasion held at Bricklehampton Hall), at which John Taylor had been one of the most successful of the exhibitors. Having to call up John so frequently to receive a prize, the rector at length said to him in a jocular manner, 'Which way are you going home, John?' (humorously implying by his inquiry, that if he did but know, he would way-lay him). John's answer was ready and pointed: '*Nat* thraough Little Cummerton, sir.'—J. S.

Pwut, *n.* pot.

Power, *v.* pour. 'My word! 'ow the rain did *power* down.'

Primmi-rose, *n.* primrose.

Pwint, *n.* point. (Fishing with a rod and line is often known as '*pwinting*.')

Pwuddle, *n.* puddle, a small pool of water.

Pwust, *n.* post (plural, *pwusses**).

Qwate, *adj.* quiet. 'Be *qwate* oot?' is equivalent to 'Be still,' or 'Be quiet, will you?'

Qwine, *n.* coin.

Racket, *n.* rocket.

Rasen, *n.* reason.

Ricken, *v.* reckon. Frequently used in the same sense as 'suppose' or 'think;' thus, 'It's time to be abed, *I ricken*.' 'We sh'll 'ave some rain, don't yū ricken?'

Rop, *n.* rope.

Rot, *n.* rat.

Rowsty, *adj.* rusty.

Rubbidge, *n.* rubbish.

Ruff, *n.* roof.

Saft, *adj.* soft.

Saish, *n.* sash.

Sallit, *n.* salad.

Scollud, *n.* scholar.

Senners, *n.* sinews.

Shap, *n.* shop.

Shart, *adj.* short.

Shâves, *n.* shafts.

Shilf, *n.* shelf.

Ship, *n.* sheep.

Shoot, *n.* or *v.* suit; as 'a *shoot* o' clothes;' 'ool that *shoot* yu?' (will that suit you?).

* A very short distance from this district, but on the south side of Bredon Hill, and in Gloucestershire, the plural is *pwustes*.

Shuf, *n.* sheaf (plural *shuvs*).

Shuit, *n.* suet.

Shull, *n.* shell.

Shum, *n.* shame.

Shuppick, *n.* sheaf-pike. 'Two paire of links, a forest bill, and a *sheppicke*, with some odd tooles' (*Inventory*, 1627, *Stratford-on-Avon MSS.*).

Shuppud, *n.* shepherd.

Shuth, *n.* sheath.

Sich, *adj.* such.

Sid, *n.* seed.

Sids, *n.* seeds ; growing clover.

Sildum, *adv.* seldom.

Sile, *n.* or *v.* soil.

Skirmidge, *n.* skirmish.

Sky-racket, *n.* sky-rocket.

Slep, *v.* slept.

Slick, *adj.* sleek.

Slob, *n.* slab.

Snift, *v.* to sniff.

Sneedge, *v.* to sneeze.

Sollery, *n.* celery.

Sparra-grass, *n.* asparagus.

Spended, *v.* spent. 'The seke brother *spendyd* al that daye in laudyng and presyng God.' (*The Revelation to the Monk of Evesham*, first printed about 1482.)

Sperits, *n.* spirits.

Spet, *v.* to spit.

Spettle, *n.* spittle.

Squale, *v.* to squeal or cry out like a pig.

Squench, *v.* quench.

Stem, *n.* steam.

Stivicate, *n.* certificate.

Stom, *n.* a stem ; as a cabbage-*stom*.

Stond, *v.* stand.

'Yet wyll I never yelde me to the,
Whyll I may *stonde* and fyght.'
(*The Battle of Otterbourne*, in *Percy's Reliques*.)

Strem, *n.* stream.

Strick, *v.* to strike.

Stroddle, *v.* to straddle.

Stun, *n.* stone.

Sut, *n.* soot.

Swinge, *v.* to singe.

Swurt, sort; (1) *n.* kind or breed. 'Them be good *swurted* taters, byunt 'um, Willum?' (2) *v.* To separate one kind from another; or good from bad, &c.

Taffey, *n.* toffee.

Tae, *n.* tea.

Talents, *n.* talons.

Taters, *n.* potatoes.

The tother, *pron.* the other. 'The bred and a litil hony that was lefte the tothir tyme' (*The Monk of Evesham*).

They, for 'them,' &c. 'Them pigs don't get on much, doos um?' 'No; 'e only giz um a drap o' sour wesh; un that's a no good tū *thay*, is it? Nat uf a wans tū make fat uns on um 'oweever.'

'But all *they* three . . . could not be man to me.'
Shakesp., Hen. V., iii. 2.

Thrid, *n.* thread.

Throw (*ow* as in *cow*), *prep.* through.

Thurn, *n.* thorn.

Tith, *n.* teeth.

Tray-foil, *n.* tre-foil.

Trewel, *n.* trowel.

Unbeknowns, *adj.* unknown.

Understond, *v.* to understand. 'Sir, ye schal *vnderstonde* and know,' &c. (*The Monk of Evesham*).

Us, *pron.* we (objective). 'We've 'ad a fine summer, aint *us*?'

Valley, *n.* value.

Varges, *n.* verjuice. 'That cider's about the wust as ever I tasted; it's as sour as *varges*.'

Varment, *n.* vermin.

Vilet or **Voilet**, *n.* or *adj.* violet. See also '*Fire-light*.'

Waund, *v.* warrant. 'That bwoy yunt strong anough tu carry that there bag o' taters.' (*Boy's father*.) 'O, I *waund* 'im.'

Wâscut or **Weskit**, *n.* waistcoat.

Wesh, *v.* to wash. 'Thenne they *weshid* his heedde breste handys and feete with colde watyr' (*The Monk of Evesham*).

Wheel-racket, *n.* wheel-rocket, or Catherine wheel.

Wick, *n.* week.

Winder, *n.* window.

Wum, *n.* home. 'I aften wishes as I wus at *wum*.'

Yander, *prep.* yonder (*akyander* = look yonder).

Yaow, *n.* ewe; *v.* to hew.

Yar, *n.* hair.

Yarb, *n.* herb. 'Like *yarbs* to the pwut' = in very small particles, like herbs prepared for the pot.

Yarley, *adj.* early.

Yarn, *v.* to earn.

Yarnest, *adj.* earnest; *n.* a portion of wages paid in advance, to bind the bargain upon hiring a servant.

Yourn, *pron.* yours.

Yud, *n.* head.

Yunt, *v.* (aint), is he (she, or it) not?

Yup, *n.* heap. (*Man who has to cross Bredon Hill*.) 'Well, I must get o' the tother side o' that yup o' dirt, I spose.'

Yus, *adv.* yes.

Yut, *v.* eat. (*Willum*.) 'Good marnin', John, 'ow's the ooman?' (*John*.) 'Well 'er yunt just the thing, Willum; 'er caunt yut nuthin'; un we knaows uf 'er caunt yut 'er fittle, there must be summut wrong.'

Yuth, *n.* earth; or a heath. 'Crapton *Yuth*' is 'Cropthorne Heath,' 'Bill *Yuth*' is 'William' or 'Bill Heath.'

Yuzzy, *adj.* easy. 'Ow be yŭ to-day, Thomas?' (*Thomas*.) 'Well, I feels a bit better, thenky. My yud ached turrible istady, but 'e's *yuzzier* to-day, a goodish bit.' 'And sothely the more nere they al came to the ende of the place the more *yesyor* and softyr waxed their peynys' (*The Monk of Evesham*).

CUSTOMS, CHARMS, REMEDIES, SIGNS, SUPERSTITIONS, &c.

CUSTOMS, PRACTICAL JOKES, &c.

NEW YEAR'S MORNING.—It is customary on New Year's morning for boys to go from house to house, chanting,

‘I wish you a merry Christmas,
A happy New Year,
A pocket full o' money,
A cellar full o' beer;
A good fat pig to sarve yu all the year.
Bud well and bear well,
I hope you will fare well;
Every sprig and every spray,
A bushel o' opples on New Year's day.
Up the ladder and down the wall,
Two or three opples 'll sarve us all;
One for Peter, and one for Paul,
And one for God as made us all.’

Sometimes the last line is changed to

‘And one for you and I *an all*.’
[‘*An-all*,’ also.] (See *Halliwel's Dict.*)

CAROLS are sung at Christmas-tide; the practice being for boys and girls to go round nightly from St. Thomas's Day until Christmas Day, and to sing one or more carols at the door of each house.

NEIGHBOURLY GREETING.—Upon entering a neighbour's house during the progress of a meal, it is (or was) customary for the visitor to say, ‘Much good may it do you.’

BOWING ON ENTERING CHURCH.—When the author was a boy, it was the custom of many members of the congregation at Little Comberton (particularly the elder people) to turn to the east and bow, the men upon entering the church, the women upon arriving at their seats; the latter slightly bending the knee, or courtesying, before entering their pew. As there had not at that time been any revival of High Church principles, in that or any of the

neighbouring parishes, the custom alluded to might have been a lingering remanent of pre-Reformation times.

Pig's Fry.—A very good custom is that of distributing amongst neighbours a small quantity of pig's 'fry' at pig-killing time; the compliment being of course returned when the recipients kill *their* pigs. It may perhaps be considered somewhat of a flaw in this otherwise excellent custom, when it is stated that the donors of the 'fry' do not, as a rule, give any to those neighbours who are not fortunate enough to possess a pig.* Such is the custom, and it is hoped that the reader will not for one moment infer that there exists amongst the villagers a want of kindly feeling towards their poorer neighbours; but decidedly the reverse. They are always ready and willing to help a neighbour (whether poor or well-to-do), in sickness or distress, to the best of their ability; the thought of payment for such service as they are able to render, never entering their heads.

DANCING ON THE GREEN or on the margin of the village highway, was not at all uncommon when the author was a youth. He has seen staid dames, as well as lads and lasses of the village, taking their places in the sets and footing it right heartily—and that, too, after having done a day's work on the farm,† or in their own houses. The orchestra usually consisted of a fiddle, with the addition, perhaps, of one or two flutes and occasionally also of a bass viol.

Unfortunately, the green margins of our English highways have in many districts been enclosed by the neighbouring land-owners, and dances on the green are now, like the greens themselves (no pun is intended), no longer common.

An anonymous poet has said, or sung:—

'Great is the fault in man or woman
That steals a goose from off a common,
But who can plead that man's excuse
Who steals the common from the goose?'

* When I was quite a little boy, I received, in connection with the custom here alluded to, probably my first practical lesson in the 'ways of the world.' It happened one year, that for some reason or other my father did not have a pig, and I noticed with surprise that a near neighbour, when her pig was killed, did not (as was her usual custom) give us any 'fry.' Inquiring of my good mother the cause of this omission, I was told it was because we had no pig. Her answer puzzled me considerably, for I could not help thinking, most conscientiously, that for that very reason our usually kind neighbour ought not on this occasion to have overlooked us.—J. S.

† There is undoubtedly, to some constitutions, something highly exhilarating in out-door occupation. I have seen men working in the harvest field as hard as it seemed possible for men to work, who, upon the conclusion of a *bout* (see p. 5), would nevertheless indulge in a hornpipe, apparently from sheer animal enjoyment of the pleasure of being alive.—J. S.

In connection with this subject, and that of rural life generally, it may here be remarked (if a slight digression be permitted), that farmers and labourers had their grievances 350 years ago, much as they have them now. In '*Now a dayes*,' a poem written about the year 1530, the author states, amongst other grievances:—

'But now their ambitious sottlethe
Maketh one fearme of two or thre;
Ye, some tyme they bring VI. to one.'

Great complaint is also made against enclosures:—

'Commons to close and kepe
Poor for bred [to] cry and wepe.'

In '*Vox Populi Vox Dei*,' 1547-8, the laying down of arable land for grazing purposes is bitterly denounced.

'This is a mervellois mesire
For grasiarcs and regratres,
With soe many shepe-maistres
That of erabell ground make pasteres,
Are they that be these wasteres,
That will vndoe this lande?' &c. &c.

In another poem of about the same date ('*The Ruin of a Ream*'), complaint is made of absenteeism on the part of the nobility and gentry.

'Sometyne nobyll men levyd in ther contre,
And kepte grete howsoldis, pore men to socowur;
But now in the Courts they desire for to be,
With ladys to daly, this is ther pleasure;
So pore men dayley may famish for hunger,
Or they com home on monyth to remayne;
Thys ys the throwthe, as I here certayne.'

Returning to the subject in hand:—

MOPS, or hiring fairs, are held in various towns at Michaelmas-tide. Those who attend them with the intention of being hired, adopt certain badges which are well understood, and therefore save time and trouble. A carter's boy wears a length of whip-cord in his hat; a carter, some horse-hair; a groom, a small piece of sponge, &c. Female servants also used to have some plan of showing what positions they were looking for, by the way in which they wrapped their shawls, and by other devices, of which the author is compelled to plead ignorance.

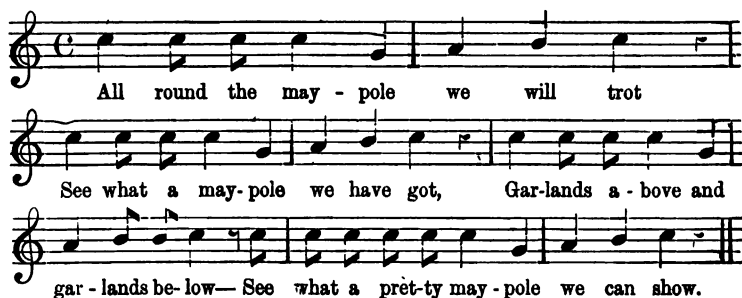
STRIKING HANDS is the recognised act of binding a bargain in fair or market. A dealer will say to a man having pigs to sell, 'What be yū a exin' fur thay, gaffer?' (*Seller*.) 'A guinea a piece.' (*Dealer walks off muttering 'I thought yū wanted to sell um praps.'*) By and by he returns, evidently liking the looks of

the pigs. (*Dealer.*) 'Well, yu aant sell'd the pigs then.' (*Seller.*) 'No, but I shawnt be long fust.' (*Dealer.*) 'Well, they be smartish pigs, I odn't a come back else; but thay byunt wuth nuthin' like what you be a exing far um. I'll tell yu what I'll do thaough; uf you'll thraow mū back ten shillin', look yu, I'll gi' yū a pound a piece far um, un I wunt give a fardin moore.' (Holds out his hand, and after a little consideration the seller gives it a slap with his hand, and the bargain is settled.)

ON MAY-POLE DAY (May 29th, Restoration Day), the children, probably assisted by older persons, decorate a pole with may-blossoms and with flowers, liberally contributed by all the neighbours possessing flower gardens. The May-pole is carried from house to house by two or three strong lads, and at intervals is 'set up,' being held in a perpendicular position by the lads, while the children join hands and dance or run around it, singing:—

'All round the May-pole we will trot,
See what a May-pole we have got,
Garlands above and garlands below,
See what a pretty May-pole we can show.'

The tune is rather monotonous, and runs thus:—



SELLING BY CANDLE END.—The following extract is from the *Evesham Standard* of October 7, 1893, and although the sale referred to did not take place in Worcestershire, but in a neighbouring county, the custom is now so well-nigh obsolete, that the author will be pardoned for overstepping the boundary upon this one occasion:—'The curious old Warwickshire custom of letting roadside grazing rights by the auction of the burning candle was observed in the parish of Warton, near Polesworth, on Monday night.* The sale was conducted by the road surveyor, and the bidding for each lot commenced with the lighting of a bit of

* Oct. 2, 1893.

candle about a quarter of an inch long. He who was last in when the light went out became the purchaser. Five miles of herbage were thus let for a sum of about eleven pounds, which was only a quarter of what it made forty years ago.'

'HARVEST-HOME' used to be celebrated right joyously at almost every farm. At the carrying home of the last load the men and boys shouted:—

'Up, up, up, up, harvest-home,
We have sowed and we have mowed,
And we have carried the last load home,
Up, up, up, up, harvest-home.'

Afterwards the farmer and his family, his friends and his labourers, male and female, sat down to a substantial supper, followed by singing, dancing (sometimes) and cider drinking without stint. Much merriment prevailed, and (it must be admitted) some drunkenness. The festival was frequently kept up until daylight the next morning; when the young men of the party would perhaps be seen, gallantly and jocosely, escorting the women to their respective homes, by the light (in addition to that of broad day) of a lantern and candle. It can scarcely be denied that the change which has taken place in the manner of celebrating harvest-home in most parishes is for the better.

LOWER COUNTRY.—In haymaking time, some of the most adventurous of the young men, used to travel into a remote region somewhere below Gloucester, called the 'Lower Country,' in quest of work. They were usually successful, and not only secured for themselves a liberal supply of money as wages, but the reputation of being great travellers.

BON-FIRE NIGHT, or 'bwun-fire night' is loyally celebrated on the fifth of November, when a bonfire is lighted, guns and the blacksmith's anvil fired off, with the accompaniment of 'serpents,' 'pack-rackets,' 'sky-rackets,' 'wheel-rackets,' &c. The fuel for the fire is collected from the farmers and others, to whose houses men and boys repair, each provided with a stout stick; the end of which he thumps upon the ground, first as a kind of prelude, and then as an accompaniment to the well-known ditty:—

'O don't you remember the fifth of November
Is gunpowder, 'trason' and plot?
I don't see the 'rason' why gunpowder trason
Should ever be forgot.
A stick and a stake for Queen Victoria's sake,
I pray master give us a faggit;
If you don't give us one we'll take two,
The better for we and the wuss for you.'

Care is taken to bring down the sticks with a hearty thump, all together, at the words 'plot,' 'forgot' and 'faggit.'

THE CURFEW BELL is rung at Pershore at eight o'clock in the evening from November 5th until Candlemas day. It was formerly rung also at five o'clock in the morning, but owing to the old sexton (named Blake) who, for many years performed the duty of ringing the curfew bell, making a mistake as to the time on one occasion, and ringing it five hours too early, the practice was discontinued. The mistake arose in this way. The sexton awoke in the night whilst the church clock was striking twelve, and hearing the last five strokes only, he hastily slipped into his clothes, hurried off to the belfry, and rang the bell in the belief that it was five o'clock. At that time market gardeners carried their fruit (for which Pershore is so famous*) to Worcester, Birmingham, and other markets, in carts; loading them the day before, so that nothing remained to be done in the morning but to 'shut in' the horses and drive off. On the occasion referred to, some of the gardeners (trusting implicitly to the sound of the curfew bell) arose, harnessed their horses, and drove off to market, not discovering the error they had been led into, until they arrived at their destination.

CIDER-DRINKING.—The law permits the sale of cider without licence, if the quantity sold at one time be not less than four and a-half gallons. This being the case, half a dozen or so of workmen sometimes club together and purchase that quantity. They also, as if in duty bound, drink it off forthwith; the result being that by the time the jars are empty, every man who has taken a share in the affair is more or less intoxicated.†

The author remembers an absurd incident in connection with one of these 'cider-drinkings.' Amongst others engaged in this rustic devotion to Bacchus was a man named 'Tom,' a sawyer (his surname is immaterial), and after the conclusion of the orgies, the cider jars having been emptied, 'Tom' was discovered by his master, crawling along on his hands and knees, helplessly drunk. Upon being asked what was the matter, he replied with the greatest readiness, drunk as he was (although in doing so, it is to be feared he told considerably less than half the truth) '*I 'a got a bad cold, master.*'

* It is a saying around Pershore, that when there is a good 'hit' of fruit (cherries and plums more particularly), the inhabitants speak of their town as '*Pershore, where d'you think?*' but in a bad fruit season they have recourse to their ancient motto (a good and pious one undoubtedly), *Pershore, God help us.*

† As the writer, to a very great extent, eschews politics, he does not venture to say that the law as it stands, with regard to this matter, is a mistake; but he cannot help thinking that if the men could, in such cases, purchase a smaller quantity than the '*faour un a 'awf*,' they would willingly do so, and less mischief might result as a consequence.

Little excuse can, it is feared, be offered on behalf of men who will sit and drink, sometimes for days together, merely for the purpose of getting rid of the cider; deeming it to be less wasteful to spend two or three days of their time in emptying the cask in this manner, than it would be to loosen the bung and permit the liquor to flow away down the gutter.

A Netherton man (also named 'Tom') had been absent from his work for a day or two, and his master wondering what had become of him, called on the third day at his house. There he found Thomas, with three companions, most industriously occupied in drinking cider drawn from a thirty gallon cask, which they had set themselves the task of emptying. Tom's explanation was, that 'having borrowed the borrel, and the owner wanting it hisself, he 'ad invited his three friends to assist him in emptying it, so that the owner shouldn't be disappointed; and that they 'ad now amwust finished the job.'

'GIVE A DRAP TO THE OAWD MON.'—This signifies to pour a horn of cider upon the ground instead of to drink it. It has been thought by some, that this practice might be a relic, of the ancient form of making a votive offering, to a heathen deity; possibly it might be; but if so, our modern votaries seldom offer, what they feel any inclination to drink themselves.

PRACTICAL JOKES are not uncommon; such as tying the doors of a cottage at which a wedding, a Christmas party, or other merry-making is being held. The method usually adopted, is to place a stout stick across the doorway, and to fasten the handle of the door to the stick, with strong twine. As the chamber windows are not usually very far from the ground, means of egress are not difficult to find; so that beyond the probable loss of temper (and possibly a little profanity) on the part of the occupiers of the cottage, no great harm is done. Sometimes, too, the inmates will, on such occasions as those alluded to, find the house suddenly filled with smoke; outside friends having taken the trouble to prevent its escape at the ordinary outlet, by carefully stopping up the top of the chimney (or 'tun') with a 'pitchful' of farm yard manure.

In a village in which were two public-houses, the proprietors of these establishments (we will call them A and B, although as a matter of fact the initial B served for both), have before now been a little surprised to find their respective signs changed—A's sign having been placed over B's door, and B's sign over A's.

Sometimes a man who forms one of a drinking party, will find that his hat (if he has taken it from his head and deposited it out of his sight), has also been indulging; for upon attempting to put

it on, a pint or so of liquor is discharged over his head and face. Or perhaps, upon feeling for his knife or his handkerchief in his coat pocket, he will find a small lake of ale or cider, which has been kindly deposited there by an unknown friend.

'Catching an owl' is a practical joke in which there are usually three actors, two being confederates. The one upon whom the joke is intended to be played carries a sieve, and one of the confederates a lantern; the third man, provided with a bucket of water, keeps out of sight, and stations himself in a hay loft, or similar situation overhead. The man with the lantern then takes the one carrying the sieve, to a spot well over-looked from the door of the hayloft; telling him that there is an owl in the loft, which will fly down at the light of the lantern, and when it does so he is to catch it in the sieve. The victim is instructed to hold the sieve up over his head, and the man with the lantern standing behind him throws the light into the centre of the sieve. This is the signal for the man with the bucket, who then pours its contents into the sieve and completely drenches the poor victim.

REMEDIES, CHARMS, &C.; LUCKY AND UNLUCKY SIGNS AND ACTS.

WHOOPING-COUGH is said to be cured, by giving to the patient, on nine successive mornings, a slice of bread, which has previously been buried in the earth for twenty-four hours.

2. Let the patient stand under the nostrils of a 'skew-bald' (or pie-bald) horse, so that the horse can breathe upon him. This is considered to be a certain cure.

3. If the patient will pass underneath a bramble branch which is rooted at both ends, the cough will leave him.

BLEEDING AT THE NOSE, is cured by placing a cold stone or a key down the patient's back, between the clothing and the skin.

2. The repetition of Ezek. xvi. 6, is a charm for bleeding at the nose, considered by many to be infallible.

3. For bleeding at the nose, wear a skein of red silk round the neck.

BURNS, AND ERYSIPELAS (St. Anthony's fire, or Tantony's fire), are supposed to be cured by 'charming,' usually by a woman. The charmer blows lightly on the affected part, and whispers very softly some mystic words; blowing and whispering alternately.

WARTS are cured by the application to them of a black snail, which must afterwards be impaled upon a thorn. As the snail wastes away, so also will the warts, until quite gone. The slimy matter from the snail, must be permitted to dry upon the warts.

2. Warts are also cured, by rubbing them for nine consecutive mornings, with the downy lining of the pod of the bean; or by applying to them for the same number of days, the juice of the weed called 'cat's-milk.'

3. Some persons are supposed to have the power of charming away warts; the only thing necessary for the patient to do, is to tell the charmer their number.

SORE EYES are cured by applying to them rain water, caught on Ascension Day, and which is called 'holy water.' The rain water, caught in the hollow formed by the leaves of a species of dock growing by brook sides, is also a cure for sore eyes.

FOR DIARRHOEA a small portion of a Good Friday 'hot cross bun' is taken; it is grated with a nutmeg grater, and taken as a powder. A single bun is usually kept all the year round for such purposes, and also because it is considered lucky.

SHINGLES is cured by the use of ointment, made of grease (dodment) from the Church tenor bell.

TOOTHACHE.—Cure for tooth-ache. Take a gimlet and a piece of cotton wool, and with the gimlet, bore a hole in the trunk of a maiden ash; thrust the cotton wool into the hole, and stop up the hole with a peg, saying at the same time 'I do this, hoping to cure the tooth-ache.'

2. A briar ball (a soft kind of ball which forms on the hip-briar), is carried in the pocket as a remedy for tooth-ache.

HEAD-ACHE.—A snake-skin, worn inside the hat or bonnet, keeps away head-ache.

STITCH IN THE SIDE is prevented by carrying in the pocket a 'stitch-bone;' a small bone in the shape of a T found in the cheek of a sheep.

QUINSEY.—A remedy for quinsey is a skein of crimson silk, or a narrow piece of crimson ribbon, worn round the neck. If the patient be a man, the ribbon or silk must be tied round the neck by the hands of a maiden.

NETTLE-STING.—A remedy for the sting of a nettle, is to rub the affected part with a dock-leaf, repeating whilst doing so this charm :—

‘ Ettle, Ettle, ’ittle Dock
Dock sh’ll ’ave a golden smock,
Ettle shaunt a’ nerrun.’

CORNS should be cut on the first Friday after full moon.

BABY’S NAILS.—It is unlucky to cut a-baby’s nails before it is a year old ; to do so would cause it to become a thief. Should it become necessary to shorten them, they must be bitten off.

LEY.—It is unlucky to have ley in the house on Ash Wednesday ; housewives therefore take care to empty their ley-tubs on Shrove Tuesday.

NEW MOON.—It is unlucky to see the new moon for the first time through glass. Upon first seeing the new moon, the money in the pockets should be turned over.

KNIVES.—It is unlucky for two knives to be crossed on the table.

SALT.—It is unlucky to spill salt on the table ; but should such an accident occur the ill effects of it are counteracted, by throwing a small quantity of the salt over the left shoulder.

THE FIRST LAMB seen in the season should have its face towards you ; otherwise you will be unlucky.

MAGPIES.—For a single magpie (or maggit) to fly near you, or to settle in the road in front of you when you are starting on a journey, is unlucky ; but should there be a pair of these birds, no ill may be apprehended in consequence.

A HORSE-SHOE nailed to the door of a house, stable, barn, &c., prevents the entrance of witches.

RAVEN.—It is unlucky to kill a raven. The writer remembers hearing an old game-keeper say that he never shot but one raven, and shortly after doing so he fell down and broke his leg. That this accident was attributable to his shooting the raven, he felt so fully convinced, that he declared he never would under any circumstances kill another.

WITCHCRAFT.—A small quantity of earth from a young man's grave, worn on the head (in a small bag), is a safeguard against witchcraft.

A HARE running through a village betokens a fire, and should it take refuge in any house, that is the house at which the fire will occur.

LEAVEN.—When a woman has laid her leaven, she sprinkles a little flour over it, and then makes a cross upon it with her finger; otherwise she would not expect the leaven to 'rise.'

BELL.—If the bell, when tolling, sounds heavily, it is the sign of an approaching death.

BEES.—When the owner of bees dies, it is supposed to be necessary to 'tell' the bees, or they will all die. 'Telling the bees' of a death is performed by a person rapping three times on the hive with the front door key of the house in which the deceased person died, and saying in a low voice, 'Bees, bees, your master (or mistress) is dead; you be a gwain to have a new master.'

EGG SHELLS should not be burnt, or the hens will cease laying.

FRIDAY.—It is unlucky to begin any new work, or to start on a journey on a Friday.

WASHING.—If two persons wash their hands at the same time in one bowl, they must spit in the water, otherwise they will quarrel before the day is over.

NEW YEAR.—The first person to enter a dwelling on New Year's morning should be a male; for a female to do so would be unlucky. The boys who go round 'wishing the villagers a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year' (page 62) are frequently invited into the cottages, so that they may thus act as fenders between the occupiers and ill-luck.

CRAMP.—Should you be troubled with cramp, lay your stockings across each other at the foot of the bed, when you retire to rest. Neglect of this precaution, might result in the continuation, or a renewal of the malady.

FOLK-TALES.

Of folk-tales the author does not remember to have heard much, excepting the usual stories to be found in all story books relating to fairies, giants, witches, &c. The following stories were, however, told to him verbally when he was a boy, and

might be thought worth recording. The first was related by a thresher man while at work in a barn, and the delight (slightly spiced with awe) with which it was listened to by the present narrator is not forgotten to this day:—

THE DEVIL AND THE FARMER.—The devil once called on a farmer and exed 'im if he could give him a job. 'What con'st do?' said the farmer. 'Oh! enything about a farm,' said the devil. 'Well, I wans (want) a mon to 'elp mū to thresh a mow o' whate,' sez the farmer. 'All right,' sez the devil, 'I'm yer mon.' When they got to the barn, the farmer said to the devil, 'Which oot thee do, thresh or thraow down?' 'Thresh,' said the devil. So the farmer got o' top o' the mow and begun to thraow down the shuvs of whate on to the barn flur, but as fast as 'e cud thraow 'em down the devil ooth one stroke uv 'is nile, knocked all the carn out on um, un send the shuvs flying out o' the barn dooer. The farmer thought he had got a queer sart uv a threshhermon; un as 'e couldn't thraow down fast enough far 'im, 'e sez to 'im, 'Thee come un thraow down oot?' 'All right,' sez the devil. So the farmer gets down off the mow by the ladther, but the devil 'e just gives a lep up from the barn flur to the top o' the mow, athout waiting to goo up the ladther. 'Be yū ready?' sez the devil. 'Iss' (yes), sez the farmer. Ooth that the devil sticks 'is shuppick into as many shuvs as ood kiver the barn flur, an thraows um down. 'That'll do fur a bit,' sez the farmer, so the devil sat down un waited t'll the farmer 'ud threshed that lot, un when a was ready agyun, 'e thraow'd down another flur full; un afore night they'd finished threshin' the whole o' the mow o' whate. The farmer couldn't 'elp thinkin' a good dyull about 'is new mon, fur 'e'd never sin sich a one afore. ('E didn't knaow it was the devil, thū knaowst, 'cos he took keer nat to let the farmer see 'is cloven fut*). So in the marnin' 'e got up yarly un went un spoke to a cunnin' mon about it. The cunnin' mon said it must be the devil as 'ad come to 'im, un as 'e 'ad exed 'im in, 'e couldn't get shut on 'im athout 'e could give 'im a job as 'a couldn't do. Soon after the farmer got wum agyun, 'is new mon (the devil) wanted to knaow what he wus to do that day, and the farmer thought 'e'd give 'im a 'tazer; so he sez, 'Goo into the barn look, un count the number o' carns there be in that yup o' whate as we threshed out istaday.' 'All right,' sez Old Nick, un off a went. In a faow minutes 'e comes back and sez, 'Master, there be so many' (namin' ever so many thousan' or millions un odd, Id'na 'ow many). 'Bist sure thee'st counted um all?' sez

* It is said that when the devil appears personally to mankind, he is never able to dispense with his cloven foot, but that he always does his best to hide it, so as to prevent the discovery of his identity.

the farmer. 'Every carn,' sez Satan. Then the farmer ardered 'im to goo un fill a 'ogshead borrel full a wáter ooth a sieve. So off 'e shuts agyun, but soon comes back un tells the farmer e'd done it; un sure anough 'a 'ad; un every job the farmer set 'im to do was the same. The poor farmer didn't know what to make on it, fur thaough 'e wus a gettin' 'is work done up so quick, 'e didn't like 'is new mon's company. 'Owever, the farmer thought he'd 'ave another try to trick 'im, un told the devil 'e wanted 'im to goo ooth 'im a mowin' next marnin'. 'All right,' sez the old un, 'I'll be there, master.' But as soon as it was night the farmer went to the fild, un in the part the devil was to mow, 'e druv a lot o' horrow tynes into the ground amongst the grass. In the marnin' they got to the fild in smartish time, un begun to mow; the farmer 'e took 'is side, and told the devil to begin o' the tother, where 'e'd stuck in the horrow tynes thu knaowst. Well, at it went the devil, who but 'e, un soon got in among the stuck up horrow tynes; but thay made no odds, 'is scythe went thraough 'em all, un the only notice on 'em 'e took wus to say to the farmer, every time 'e'd cut one on um thraough, 'A bur-dock, master;' un kep on just the same. The poor farmer 'e got so frightened at last, 'e thraough'd down 'is scythe un left the devil to finish the fild. As luck ood 'ave it, soon atter 'a got wum, a gipsy ooman called at the farm 'ouse, and seein' the farmer was in trouble exed 'im what was the matter; so 'e up un tell'd 'er all about it. 'Ah, master,' 'er sez to 'im, when 'e 'ad tell'd 'er all about it; 'you 'a got the devil in your 'ouse sure enough, un you can only get shut on 'im by givin' 'im summut to do as 'a caunt manage.' 'Well, ooman,' sez the farmer, 'what's the use o' telling mû that? I a tried every thing I can think on, but darned uf I cun find 'im eny job as 'a caunt do.' 'I'll tell you what to do,' sez the gipsy ooman; 'when 'a comes wum, you get the missis to give 'im one uv 'er curly 'airs; un then send 'im to the blacksmith's shap, to straighten 'im on the blacksmith's anvil. 'E'll find 'a caunt do that, un 'e'll get so wild over it as 'e'll never come back to yû agyun.' The farmer was very thankful to the gipsy ooman, and said 'e'd try 'er plan. So bye 'n bye in comes the aowd fella, un sez, 'I a finished the mowin', master; what else a you got far mû to do?' 'Well, I caunt think uv another job just now,' sez the farmer, 'but I thinks thee missis a got a little job for thû.' So 'e called the missis, un 'er gan the devil a curly 'air lapped up in a bit o' paper, un tell'd 'im to goo to the blacksmith's shap, un 'ommer that there 'air straight; un when 'a was straight to bring 'im back to 'er. 'All right, missis,' sez the devil, un off a shut. When 'a got to the blacksmith's shap, 'e 'ommer'd un 'ommer'd at that there 'air on the anvil, but the moore 'e 'ommered, the crucked the 'air got; so at last 'e thraow'd

down the 'ommer and the 'air un baowted, un never went back to the farmer agyun.

THE FAIRY'S PEEL.—A ploughman working in a field one day heard distinctly, what he supposed to be the sound of a female voice, proceeding from beneath the ground. The lady was lamenting that she had broken her peel, and the ploughman, possessing the usual gallantry of a Worcestershire man, called out, 'Bring 'im 'ere, missis, un I'll mend 'im.' Upon arriving at the end of his furrow, the ploughman was not a little surprised, to find a nicely made baking peel, with its handle broken in two, lying on the adland. When he went home he took the peel with him, and mended it as neatly as he could; and the next morning brought it back, and laid it on the adland, in the place where the fairy had left it the day before. When he had finished his bout, and returned again to the adland, he found that the fairy had taken away the peel, and had left in its place the most delicious little cake he had ever eaten.

A WITCH once entered a stable and sat upon the manger, in the shape of a large black cat. The carter seeing her, went and called a dog to drive her away, but the witch changed herself into a wheat straw, and laid herself across the horse's back. Upon the carter's return to the stable he could not see the cat, but seeing the wheat straw lying across the horse's back, he cut it through with his knife, causing it to bleed human blood. Alarmed at this he ran out of the stable and called his fellow labourers, who on going into the stable, found the dead body of an old woman shockingly mutilated.

SAYINGS, SUPERSTITIONS, &c.

APPLES ARE CHRISTENED on St. Swithin's Day (July 15), from which date they are eatable.

THE CUCKOO buys a horse at Pershore fair (June 26), and rides away. It is a fact that the cuckoo is seldom heard in this locality after that date, but should it occasionally depart from this rule it is said that 'he could not find a horse to suit him at the fair.'

In April it is said that the cuckoo comes and picks up all the dirt.

DON'T EAT DIRT.—When a boy or girl is going to service (particularly if it be a first situation), he or she will receive the injunction, 'Be a good bwoy (or wench) and don't yut dirt.'

OF ELMLEY MEN the saying is (or was), 'You can always tell (know) a Embley mon by 'is stick.' It is true that, as a rule, every Elmley man carried (and probably does so now) a stick, which, unlike an ordinary walking-stick, projected six or seven inches upwards above the hand, and generally consisted of an ash sapling. This was probably owing to the fact, that they nearly all, were more or less connected with the woods, and had thus opportunities of supplying themselves with such sticks, which they found to be convenient and serviceable; particularly when climbing Bredon Hill. The author has spent many happy hours in the company of Elmley men, whom he always found to be of a most genial and jovial disposition, and there is lingering in his recollection some faint trace, (so faint is it that he scarcely dares to record it), of a tradition connected with Elmley men's sticks. It is something to this effect—that on the day of the battle of Evesham a body of Elmley men marched to that town in support of Prince Edward, and that they were all armed with sticks, which they had cut for themselves in the woods; and being on the winning side, they naturally from that time, felt some pride in (or as we should say locally, were fritch of) their long sticks. However that may be, Leland, the historian, mentions (as quoted by the late Rev. Hugh Bennett) that 'the old Lord Beauchamp, of Helmeley, sent three or four of his sunnes to the battle of Evesham, to help King Henry III. and Prince Edward, again Simon Monteforte and the Barons; and these brether, with their band, did a great feate in vanquishing the host of Monteforte.'

BREDON HILL.—A saying referring to Bredon Hill as a weather foreteller, is—

'When Bredon Hill puts on his hat
Men of the vale beware of that.'

Meaning, that if a cloud descends upon the hill and remains there, it is a sign of rain; when it ascends, it is going to be fine. When the hill appears to be very near, showers of rain are probable; if apparently far off, fine weather may be expected.

THE BAMBURY STONE, about which so much has been written, and which stands at the border of Kemerton Camp, on the summit of Bredon Hill, is said to go down to the Avon to drink, every time it *hears* a church clock strike twelve.

WHISTLING FEMALES.—

'A whistling maid, a crowing hen,
Are neither good for God nor men.'

PIG-KILLING.—A pig must not be killed when the moon is waning, or the bacon will 'boil out,' that is, it will shrink in boiling instead of 'plimming up' (or becoming plump), as good bacon should do.

CARELESSNESS.—It is said of a careless person, 'It's all Come day, go day, God send Sunday with him' (or 'her').

CAKE'S ALL DOUGH.—When work upon which a person is engaged seems to be progressing somewhat slowly and awkwardly, so as to cause vexation or irritation, he (or she) will exclaim, 'O dear aow, my cake's all dough' sometimes adding 'How shall I bake it, I don't know.' Comp. *Shakespeare, Tam. Shr.*, i., 1 and v., 1.

ECLIPSE.—It used to be thought that an eclipse of the sun, was ocular evidence of a battle being then in progress between the sun and the moon; and that the result of a lunar victory, would be the immediate ending of the world.

POINTING AT THE STARS.—Children used to be told, that it was wicked to point with the finger at the stars, or at the rainbow; to attempt to count the stars, was also considered a very wicked act.

HAT BRIM turned up behind. 'Is 'at's turned up behind like a Pammington mon's.'

MONEY-TREE.—Children who are wanting a toy or something of the kind, that their parents do not wish to buy for them, are told they must wait until their *money-tree bears*. Equivalent to waiting until their ship comes in.

MONEY SPIDER.—A small red spider, whose presence is supposed to indicate the approach of good fortune.

PERSHORE BOYS could formerly be readily detected by their peculiar '*twang*'; a sharp accent being given to the first syllable, the pitch slightly dropping and rising again as they proceeded with their sentence. Country lads (those from Pershore never forgetting to so designate the lads of the villages) would call after them, '*Wher bist a gwainin?*' 'Oy, *up* in the Newland.' '*What atter?*' 'Oy, a *aputh o' taters.*' '*What makes thu 'ave sich a faow at a time?*' 'Oy, cos mother sez *thay bwiles like morra, un goos down yer neck like a wheelborra.*'

EVESHAM BOYS.—The call after an Evesham lad is (or was) 'Who put the pig on the wall to 'ear the bond play? Oy, Asum.

(How these absurdities originated the author is unable to say, but they are included because with regard to sayings, &c., as well as in numerous other matters, it is difficult to decide what is, or what is not, a trifle.)

HORSE-HAIR IN WATER.—There is (or was), a belief amongst boys (if not amongst elders also), that a horse-hair permitted to remain in water, until the water became putrid, would change into a living reptile.

‘ Much is breeding,
Which, like the *courser's* hair, hath yet but life,
And not a serpent's poison.’

(*Shakespeare, Ant. and Cleop.*, i., 2).

HAUNTED HOUSES, roads, barns, &c., are not very uncommon. The writer has heard from more than one authority of a funeral procession, which is occasionally seen marching in all solemnity along the highway on Cropthorne Heath, near the hour of midnight. At a certain gate it turns off the high road, enters the field, and disappears. One eye-witness of this apparition, who related the matter as above stated, to the author; was a highly respectable, and well-known professor of music. The apparition is sometimes called ‘ Old Dutton's Funeral.’

Another road said to be haunted, is that leading from Little Comberton, to Bricklehampton and Elmley Castle. It is related that a man, who at the time lived at Bricklehampton, was proceeding homewards one evening along the road referred to, when he overtook a young woman, and walked beside her until they arrived opposite Coachman's barn, at which spot he ventured to attempt to put his arm round her waist. His arm, however, passed through her body, and she disappeared through the gateway which leads into the Coachman's barn ground.

Numerous stories are told of strange noises and appearances at Nash's Farm, at the Manor House, and in the locality around these old houses; both of which are in Little Comberton. But nearly all parishes seem to have their ghosts and haunted houses, and to relate a quarter of the stories which crop up upon the subject, would be a task that the author could not undertake.

‘ Such topics I must leave to other hands,
Shut out by envious straits of time and space.’

(*Virgil, Fremantle's Translation.*)

NAMES OF FIELDS, &c.

Of the Names of Fields, &c., given here, some are probably of no importance whatever; others are common-place, but a fairly good number of them are suggestive of by-gone days, and of old superstitions. [The spelling may not in all cases be correct; the names in many instances having been taken down from hearing them only.]

ACRES.
 ALLSBOROUGH HILL.
 ASHAM MEADOW.
 ASKEN CORNER.
 ASMOOR PIECE.

 BACK-ORCHARD.
 BAKER'S ORCHARD.
 BALLINS.
 BALLINS-SLAD.
 BARTLEY-ADLAND.
 BATTINS WOOD.
 BEARCROFT.
 BEGGAR-BOYS.
 BEN-HOLM.
 BERRYER-PIECE.
 BERRY (or BURY) WAY.
 BESS-CAPS.
 BIG MILLOW.
 BIN-CROFT.
 BLACK LENNARD.
 BLOOD-WORT.
 BOTTOMS.
 BOUN-HAM.
 BREACH.
 BROAD-BUCKTIN.
 BROADMERE-LAYS.
 BROAD-WATERS.
 BUCKETS-CORNER (? Puck-its
 Corner.)
 BURY-LENCHES.

 CALMUS-HILL.
 CAMES-COOMB.
 CAN-LANE.

CATTI-CROFT.
 CHAD-BURY.
 CHARFORD-BANK.
 CHICKEN-ORCHARD.
 CHURCH-FURLONG.
 CLATS-MOOR.
 COACHMAN'S BARN.
 COLD-WELL.
 COLE'S-LAYS.
 COLT-GROUND.
 COLLEGE-ORCHARD.
 COPPICE-FURLONG.
 CRAY-COMB HILL.

DEAD-MAN'S AIT.
 DEAR-SALE.
 DENE-FURLONG.
 DENE-MEADOW.
 DEVIL'S SLEDTHER.
 DINGE.
 DIPPERLINGS.
 DOCTOR'S-CLOSE.
 DOCTOR'S WOOD.
 DODDEN-HILL.
 DOWN-MILLOW.
 DOWNS.
 DRAGON'S-HOLE.

ELLACOMPANE.

 FARTHER-HOBBS.
 FLAX-GROUND.
 FURZE-GROUND.

GIG-MWIRE (probably *Quag-*
mire).

GLYDE-PIECE.
 GOODLEY-HILL.
 GRAVEL-PIT-GROUND.
 GREEN-FARN-HILL.
 GREEN-GROUND.
 GREEN-STREET.
 GUINEA-FURLONG.
 GUNNING'S-LANE.

HALES-WELL.
 HASELOR.
 HELL-HOLE.
 HENDON-BANK.
 HICKERAGE.
 HOB-NAILS.
 HOB'S-HOLE.
 HOME-GROUND.
 HONGER-FURLONG.
 HORRELL-ORCHARD.
 HORRELL-WOOD.
 HORSE-CAMPS.
 HOWBURN-HILL.
 HUNGER-HILL.
 HURRELLS-HILL.
 HUSS (or HURST) BARN.

ICKLEY.
 ICKLEY-MEADOW.
 ICKLEY-PIECE.

KENNET'S ORCHARD.
 KENT'S ORCHARD.
 KNAP.

LAMMAS-MEADOW.
 LICH-LANE.
 LILWORTH.
 LITTLE WORRALL.
 LONG-DITCH.
 LONG-DRAGON'S-PIECE.
 LONG-LAND.
 LOWER-FIELD BARN.
 LOWER NORVILL.

MAGPIE-LANE.
 MANOR-GROUND.
 MARY-BROOK.

MELCHAM'S WAY.
 MIDDLE-FURLONG.
 MIDDLE-NORVILL.
 MILESTONE-PIECE.
 MILLOW-GROUND.
 MOLL-HAYES.
 MOUNT-CROFT.

NAFFORD.
 NETHER-HOBBS.
 NO-GAINS.
 NORCHARD-FIELD.
 NOSTERNS-WELL-PIECE.
 NURDER.

OLD AIT.
 OLD-FALLOW.
 OLD-FIELD BARN.
 OLD-FORD MEADOW.
 OLD-SEEDS.
 OXEN-DITCH.

PENNY-CLOSE.
 PENS ORCHARD.
 PERRY-ACRE.
 PIDDLE CHURCH CLOSE.
 PIDDLE MEADOW.
 PINKITS-CORNER.
 PITCH-HILL.
 PITCHALL-HILL.
 PORTER.
 PORTWAY.
 PORTWAY-FURLONG.
 PRIEST-LANE.
 PUCK-PIT-GROUND.
 PUGG'S PIECE.
 PUR-BROOK.

RAN'S ORCHARD.
 READ'S PIECE.
 REDDEN-HILL.
 RED-FORD.
 RIDGE-GROUND.
 RIDGEWAY FAR-CLOSE.
 RIDGEWAY-FURLONG.
 RIDGEWAY-GROUND.
 RIDGEWAY-LITTLE-MEADOW.

RIDGEWAY-MIDDLE-CLOSE.
 RINGE-MERE.
 ROUND-HILL.
 RUDGE-HILL.
 RYE-FURLONG.

SALAM-COMMON MEADOW.
 SALTER'S-GREEN MEADOW.
 SALTWAY.
 SALTWAY BARN.
 SALTWAY-BARN-PIECE.
 SALTWAY-COPPICE.
 SALTWAY-PIECE.
 SHAWL.
 SHEEP-HILL.
 SHEPHERD'S-CLOSE.
 SHUT-COOMB.
 SHUTS.
 SITCHWAY-CLOSE.
 SITCHWAY-LANE.
 SLING.
 SMOCK-FURLONG.
 STAFFORD'S MOOR.
 STANNISH-LANE.
 STARN-HILL.
 STREET-FURLONG.
 SWATMAN'S GROUND.
 SYCAMORE-GROUND.

THICK-THORN.
 THROUGHTERS.
 TIBLEY.

TOLLEY'S CLOSE.
 TOWN-FURLONG.
 TWINTON.
 TYDESLEY-WOOD.
 TYTHE BARN.

UPPER-HOBBS.
 UPPER NORVILL.
 UPPER SALTWAY-PIECE.
 UPPER SYTCH.

VALENTINES.
 VINEYARD-HILL.
 VINEYARD-ORCHARD.
 VORTY-CLOSE.

WAD-CLOSE.
 WAINHERD'S HILL.
 WATER-MERE.
 WELL-FURLONG.
 WERGS.
 WHITE-WAY QUOR-PIECE.
 WHOYN-HILLS.
 WIND'S-ARSE.
 WISTAN'S BRIDGE.
 WITLEY-PIECE.
 WOLVERTON.
 WOOLLAND.

YAK.
 YEALD-WOOD.
 YELL-WOOD.

NAMES OF SOME OF THE TOWNS,
 VILLAGES, ETC., IN AND AROUND THE DISTRICT,
 WITH THEIR LOCAL APPELLATIONS.

ABBOT'S LENCH	...	Known as	HOB-LENCH.
ALCESTER	...	„	AWSTER.
ALVE-CHURCH	...	„	ALL-CHURCH.
ASHTON	...	„	AISHEN.
BENGWORTH	...	„	BENJUTH, or BEN-JUD.
BIRMINGHAM	...	„	BRUMMIJUM.
BISHAMPTON	...	„	BISSAPP'N.

BRICKLEHAMPTON...	Known as	BRICK-LUND, or BRICKLEDUN.
BROADWAY ...	...	BRADY.
CAMPDEN ...	...	CAMDIN.
CERNEY ...	...	SAWNEY.
CHARLTON ...	...	CHOL-TON.
COMBERTON ...	...	CUMMERTON.
CROPTHORNE ...	...	CRAPTON.
DORMSTONE ...	...	DARMS'N.
EBBRINGTON ...	...	YUBBERT'N.
ELMLEY ...	...	EMBLEY.
EVESHAM ...	...	A-SUM.
GOTHERINGTON ...	...	GUTHERT'N.
GRAFTON ...	...	GRAF'N (<i>a</i> as in father).
HONEYBOURNE ...	...	HONEY-BUN.
KERSOE ...	...	KESSA.
KIDDERMINSTER ...	...	KIDDY-MISTER.
KINGTON ...	...	KYINE.
MADRESFIELD ...	...	MATCH-FIELD.
MALVERN ...	...	MAVVUN.
MARSTON ...	...	MAAS'N (<i>a</i> as in father).
NAUNTON BEAUCHAMP	...	NAUN, also DIRTY NAUN.
OFFENHAM ...	...	UFFENUM.
PEBWORTH...	...	PEBBUTH.
PERSHORE ...	...	PERSHA, or PAWSHA.
POWICK ...	...	PWOYK.
SEVERN ...	...	SIVVUN.
SMETHWICK ...	...	SMERRICK.
STANWAY ...	...	STANNY.
STOULTON ...	...	STOUT'N.
SWINESHERD ...	...	SWENSHUD.
THROCKMORTON ...	...	FROGMORT'N.
UPTON SNODSBURY	...	UPTON SNADGBURY.
WEST BROMWICH...	...	WEST BRUMMIDGE.
WHITTINGTON ...	...	WITENTON.
WICKHAM ...	...	WEEKUN.
WORCESTER ...	...	OOSTER.

SHAKESPEARE AND OUR LOCAL DIALECT.

There is abundant evidence throughout the writings of Shakespeare, that he was well acquainted with this locality and its dialect. Indeed, it would be strange if such were not the case; for, unless Shakespeare had been a man who, after having acquired a certain amount of popularity, felt ashamed of his antecedents, and of his earlier surroundings, and therefore took great pains, not to introduce into his works, any of the provincialisms with which he must have been so familiar, from his earliest childhood; the absence of such evidence would scarcely be possible. Stratford is only twelve miles or so from Evesham 'as the crow flies,' and the difference in the dialects of the two districts is slight.

The following is a list of some of the local words to be found in Shakespeare's works, and in some instances, they are such as scarcely could have been used by a stranger to the locality. Moreover, what may perhaps be described as the ungrammatical subtleties of our dialect, could with difficulty have been grasped by any stranger, however learned (Bacon for instance), in the manner in which Shakespeare has caught them:—

A for He (see p. 50)	...	<i>Hen. V.</i> , iii., 2; also ii., 3, for example.
A-hungry (see p. 50)	...	<i>Mer. W.</i> , i., 1.
All-is-one	...	<i>Mer. W.</i> , ii., 2.
Argal	...	<i>Ham.</i> , v., 1.
Atomy (see p. 87)	...	2 <i>Hen. IV.</i> , v., 4 (comp. with <i>notomize</i> , which is another instance of <i>n</i> before a vowel).
Barm	...	<i>Mids. N. Dr.</i> , ii., 1.
Basting	...	<i>Com. Er.</i> , ii., 2.
Beetle	...	2 <i>Hen. IV.</i> , i., 2.
Bemoil (see p. 87)	...	<i>Tam. Shr.</i> , iv., 1.
Blindworm (see p. 87)	...	<i>Mids. N. Dr.</i> , ii., 3; <i>Macb.</i> , iv., 1.
Brize (comp. Bree)	...	<i>Troil. & Cr.</i> , i., 3; <i>Ant. & Cl.</i> , iii., 8.
Broken-mouthed (see p. 88)	...	<i>All's Well</i> , ii., 3.
Buck (to wash, see p. 88)	...	<i>Mer. W.</i> , iii., 3.
Burn-daylight (see p. 88)	...	<i>Mer. W.</i> , ii., 1; <i>Rom. & Jul.</i> , i., 4.
Cake's all dough (see p. 77)	...	<i>Tam. Shr.</i> , i., 1; v., 1.
Clipt	...	<i>Win. Tale</i> , v., 2; <i>Coriol.</i> , i., 6; <i>K. John</i> , v., 2.
Clout (a cloth)	...	<i>K. John</i> , iii., 4; <i>Rich. III.</i> , i., 3; <i>Ham.</i> , ii., 2.

bleaching on the hedge,' and also declares 'My traffic is sheets,' which, if taken from the hedge, would require to be '*pugged*' off; is it not probable that the figure he uses, simply means, that the sight of the sheets (his traffic), excites his '*pugging*' propensity?

Pun (to pound) (see p. 91) *Troil & Cr.*, ii., 1.

Resolve (to dissolve) (see

p. 91) *Ham.*, i., 2.

Shog *Hen. V.*, ii., 3.

Sliver *K. Lear*, iv., 2; *Ham.*, iv., 7; *Macb.*, iv., 1.

Sneap 2 *Hen. IV.*, ii., 1 (comp. *Snaowp*).

In concluding a bargain, men will *sneap* or *snaowp* upon a table or board with their knuckles; also in the game of 'Put,' when one player has a 'strong' hand, he will challenge his antagonist by *snaowping* upon the table; should the challenge be accepted (by a *snaowp* in reply), the game must be played through or the defaulter loses it.

Sprag (comp. *Sprackt*)

(see p. 92) *Mer. W.*, iv., 2.

Sweet-wort *Love's Lab. L.*, v., 2.

Talent (talon) *Love's Lab. L.*, iv., 2.

Tarre *K. John*, iv., 1; *Troil & Cr.*, i., 3; *Ham.*, ii., 2.

Tewkesbury Mustard ... 2 *Hen. IV.*, ii., 2.

Trammel (to catch as with a trammel, intercepting all that comes behind it)

Macb., i., 7.

Tundish *Meas. for Meas.*, iii., 2.

Tup *Othel.*, v., 2; iii., 3.

Tush *Ven. & Adon.*, 104.

Urchin *Tit. Andr.*, ii., 3.

Whiffler *Hen. V.*, v., Chorus.

(N.B.—Where no other reference is given, the word will be found in the glossary.)

In corroboration of what has been said above, let the reader refer to *Hen. V.*, iii., 2, and compare the speech of the boy with some of the examples given in the preceding pages of this work. 'All *they* three;' '*a* faces it out;' '*a* never broke any man's head but his own,' &c., &c. Or note Mrs. Quickly's description of the death of Falstaff (Act ii., sc. 3). In either instance the language employed, might very well have been that of an individual of the working class, born and bred within sound of Evesham or Pershore bells.

Again, the word '*Argal*' (the fourth in the list), which Shakespeare puts into the mouth of the gravedigger (*Ham.*, v., 1), is used in this district for 'argue.' In most glossaries it is explained as being a corruption of the word '*ergo*,' and no doubt this is so; but in using the word, the gravedigger is only doing what is so frequently done, by persons in his position of life at the present day; viz., substituting a word with which he is quite familiar, for one of which his knowledge is imperfect, because it resembles it in sound. Such instances are not at all uncommon, and any one taking an interest in the dialect of our district, would be well repaid by a perusal of the writings of our great poet, with the object of identifying the numerous instances of word and phrase, to be found therein; and which go to prove, how intimately acquainted their author must have been, with our locality and its dialect.

It may be urged, that some of these words are mere survivals of the speech of all England, in Shakespeare's day. In certain cases this may be so; but it is scarcely credible that this can apply to many; for it would be hard to supply a valid reason, why a greater number of these (if once generally common) words, should remain current in the neighbourhood of Shakespeare's birth, rather than elsewhere.

APPENDIX.

A-done, *v.* leave off; to finish.

A-late, *adv.* lately.

An-all, *adv.* also. 'Ower Tom a got a good place; 'e gets five shillin' a wick, un 'is fittle *an all*.'

A-pick-a-back, *adv.*, carrying a child with its legs resting on the shoulders, and astride the neck.

Argify, *v.* to signify, to apply an argument.

Athwart (*pron.* Athurt), *prep.* from corner to corner (of a field or other superficial area).

Atomy or **Atomize**, *n.* See *Notomize*.

Ayed him on, *v.* incited, encouraged, urged.

Back-friend, *n.* a secret enemy.

Baggar-nation-saze-it, *interj.* a mild expletive.

Banyan-days, *n.* days without food. (The Banians are a class among the Hindoos, who believe in the doctrine of metempsychosis, and therefore abstain from animal food.—*Worcester*.)

'Monday, plenty.
Tuesday, some.
Wednesday, a little.
Thursday, none.
Friday, *Banyan-day*.
Saturday, go home.'

Beetle-yudded, *adj.* stupid.

Be-mwile, *v.* (bemoil), to bedaub with mud or other filth.
'How she was bemoiled.' (*Shakesp., Tam. Shr.*, iv., 1).

Biddy, *n.* a chicken or fowl (Gaelic, *bid*, to chirp).

Bin as fur narth as eny on yŷ. 'Been as far north as any of you' = 'I know as much as,' or, 'I am no more of a simpleton than any of you.'

Bird-batting, *v.* catching birds at night from hedges, bushes, and thatched roofs, &c., by means of a net and a lantern, the birds being disturbed by sticks poked into their roosting places, and allured into the net by the light of the lantern.

Blacksmith's-daughter, *n.* the key of the street door.

Blind-worm, *n.* a species of snake.

Blizzy, *n.* a blaze.

Boffle (*baffle*), *v.* to shake another's arm when writing; (a school boy's term).

Broken-mouthed, *adj.* having lost teeth.

Bucking, *n.* clothes being washed; a wetting. 'I was out in all that tempest last night, un it was lucky as I'd got this ere oawd top coowut on; I sh'd a got a good buckin' else.' Old lady used to call a child named Ann, 'Nance, Pance, the buckin' wesher.'

Bully-rag, *v.* to abuse, to be-call; *n.* a blackguard. (Is this from *Bully-rook*? See *Shakesp., Mer. W.*, i., 3, &c. Halliwell has *Bally-rag*.)

Burning-daylight, *v.* burning a candle during daylight.

By-Gad, *interj.* a softened form of a too common irreverent expression, but used more in the same sense as the word 'indeed'; thus 'Ower Jack fund a shillin' this marnin'.' 'Did a, *be-gad*.' (*Admiringly of a very large vegetable marrow*.) 'By-gad, that's a big un.'

By-gew, or **By-gaow**, same as By-gad.

Byunt afeard o' that. This expression is frequently used in the sense of there being no probability, or hope, of any particular event occurring. (*Old allotment tenant deputed to drink the health of the landlord who is leaving the village*.) 'Ere's to your good 'ealth, sir, un I 'ope when you be gwun as we sh'll 'ave a better come; 'owever, I byunt afeard o' that, but I 'ope us shaunt 'ave a wuss.' The old gentleman meant nothing otherwise than complimentary; 'hoping a better one might come,' meant 'a better one, if such a thing were possible;' and to hope that the retiring landlord would not be succeeded by one who would be worse than he was, implied that the chances were that such would be the case.

Call together, *v.* See *Prawl*.

Cant-hook or **Kent-hook**, *n.* a strong, sharp hook, having a ring or a chain at one end, through which a lever passes, and by means of which heavy trees, &c., can be rolled over for removal.

Cast not a Clout till May be out. (Another version of the proverb, 'Change not a clout,' &c.)

Cat gallows, *n.* a horizontal stick or bar, lodged upon two perpendicular ones, used by boys in practising jumping. See *Jumping-stock*.

Chunk, *n.* a lump broken or cut off; a large slice.

Chussha-Wagga, *n.* inferior or 'skim cheese,' thus described :—

'Two pints of milk and three of slobber.
Fire wunt fret it,
Water wunt wet it
Knife wunt cut it,
Dog barks behind the door,
Cos a cawnt yut it.'

Clane as a Whistle = completely. 'That thing as thay uses in France (the Gully-tine don't um call it?) to put folks to dyuth ooth, insted a 'angin' um; cuts ther yuds off "*as clane as a whistle*."'

Clench, *v.* in drawing water from a well with a bucket, the act of turning the bucket over, in such a manner as for the edge to go under water, is called *clenching the bucket*.

Cob, *n.* a game, in which the players have to endeavour to bowl a marble into a hole made in the ground.

Cotton, *v.* to be agreeable. 'Fur 'im to pay mū the same money for doin' 'is work, when I 'ad to find myself, look; as a did when a gan mū my fittle oodn't *cotton*; un so I teld 'im.' 'Styles and I cannot *cotton*.' (*Hist. of Capt. Stukely*, quoted by Nares.)

Cowed, *v.* bent. 'I don't think my spade is o' much account, fur 'e *cowed* as soon as ever a got into a bit o' gravel.'

Cocksey, *adj.* consequential.

Crack-up, *v.* to praise, or to speak highly of another.

Crow-keeper, *n.* a boy employed to frighten away crows in a cornfield. 'That fellow handles his bow like a *crow-keeper*.' (*Shakesp., K. Lear*, iv., 6).

Cunning Man or Woman, *n.* a person having the reputation of being a wizard, or a witch. It is not an uncommon thing to say of such persons, that they have sold themselves to the devil.

Cutting for the Simples; an expression used, when speaking of a person who has done some foolish action. '*He wants cutting for the simples, I should think*.'

Deck, *n.* a pack of cards.

'But whiles he thought to steal the single ten,
The King was sllily finger'd from the *deck*!'
Shakesp., 3 Hen. VI., v., 1.

Devil's Coach-horse, *n.* the 'rove-beetle,' or 'black cock-tail' (*Ocypus olens*).

Dick's hat-band. As cross (or as queer) as *Dick's hat-band* = ill-tempered, cross, obstinate.

Don't spare; a common form of expression of welcome, to a friend who may have been invited to partake of a meal. 'Come, 'ave a bit moore; *don't spare*.'

Dowle, *n.* down, soft feathers.

‘One *dowle* that’s in my plume.’

Shakesp., Temp., iii., 3.

Drink-hus (drink-house), *n.* a building, or apartment, in which beer or cider are stored.

Eek, Eek, Eek, *n.* the call to ducks.

Eek-it-out, *v.* to use sparingly; to make the best use of a scanty supply.

Felth, *n.* feeling.

Fiz-gig, *n.* a kind of squib, made of damped gunpowder, and often used for the purpose of suffocating wasps when an attempt is made to destroy their nests.

Fizzle, *v.* to burn out like damp gunpowder; exhausting itself in emitting sparks and smoke, without producing either a blaze or an explosion.

Forry yŷ. This is an old form of saying ‘for you,’ not now very common.

Groaning, *n.* a lying-in (*Halliwell*).

Gulch, *v.* the act of swallowing.

Haulier, or **Hallyer**, *n.* a person whose business is to do ‘hauling’ with horse and cart for hire.

Hide-and-wink, *n.* hide-and-seek.

Hiding, *n.* a beating.

Jack-and-his-waggon, *n.* the constellation of ‘The Great Bear.’

Jime-stone; an upright stone in the fireplace of old-fashioned houses. ‘Thee say that agyun, look; un I’ll knock thee yud agyunst the *jimestone*.’ (Probably a corruption of jamb-stone.)

Jingling-match, *n.* a kind of dance.

Jobber, *n.* a dealer, as *pig-jobber*.

Kearf, *n.* a small bundle of hay.

Kidney-byun-sticks, *n.* the upright sticks by which kidney-beans (or scarlet-runners) are supported.

Mat, *v.* to fit, to correspond.

Mawnt, *adv.* must not.

Middlings, *n.* same as gurgins or gurgeons.

Mighty, *adv.* very, as ‘a *mighty* good un;’ ‘a *mighty* little un,’ &c.

Molly-coddie, *n.* a man who does work appertaining to a woman.

Most-in-general, generally.

Mwust-an-ind, *adv.* generally; almost always.

N is frequently placed before a vowel, as '*nawls*' for '*awls*,' '*naint*' for '*aunt*,' '*nuncle*' for '*uncle*,' '*nopple*' for '*an apple*,' '*nunchin*' for '*luncheon*' (in this case, however, the 'l' is dropped and 'n' substituted).

Nation, *adj.* very; as '*nation good*,' '*nation bad*,' &c.

Neddy-grinnel, *n.* a dog-rose briar.

Nine-men's-morris, *n.* a game in which each competitor has nine 'men,' which may consist of stones, pegs, blocks of wood, &c., A board called a morris board is generally used for the game, in which holes are bored (to a geometrical pattern) in which to place the 'men.' (Probably a modification of that referred to by Shakespeare, *Mids. N. Dr.*, ii., 2.)

Notomize, also **atomy** or **atomize**, *n.* a skeleton; also a very thin person.

O brave! *int.* an exclamation of commendation. (*Boy.*) 'Look father, I a lazed thase 'ere six ontle's o' whate.' (*Father.*) 'O brave!'

Outlandish, an out of the way place.

Pack Racket, *n.* a species of firework constructed so as to explode with a succession of loud reports (known in London as a *cracker*).

Pecked forrud, *v.* fell forward.

Pharisees, *n.* fairies. (The author has only heard old people use this term.)

Pitchful, *n.* the quantity of hay, straw, manure, &c., which can be taken up at one time with a fork, or sheaf-pike.

Plaguey, *adv.* used to emphasize any derogatory term or expression; as '*a plaguey nuisance*;' '*he drinks too much, a plaguey sight*.'

Playing at riband = playing truant.

Prawl, *v.* to sew roughly, carelessly, or in a make-shift manner; also called '*calling together*.'

Puggy, *adj.* said of a fowl, having short stumpy feathers remaining in the skin, after all the principal feathers have been plucked out.

Pun, *v.* to thump or pound.

Punk, *n.* trash; applied to articles of inferior quality; a hard species of fungus is also called *punk*.

Pure, *adj.* in good health.

Resolve, *v.* to dissolve.

'Thaw, and resolve itself into dew.'

Shakesp., Ham., i., 2.

Soft as my Pocket, an expression signifying that the person of whom it is spoken is as soft as an empty pocket; soft (or *saft*) being synonymous with silly or foolish.

Sags, *n.* rushes; used for the seats of chairs, such chairs being called '*sag*-bottomed chairs.'

Sappy, *adj.* timber having much of the outer or softer portion compared with the inner, or more solid part, called the 'heart.' A simple or foolish person is also called '*sappy*.'

Sprackt, *adj.* smart, active, ready-witted. (Comp. *Sprag*, *Shakesp.*, *Mer. W.*, iv., 2.)

Thiller, *n.*, the horse between the shafts of a cart or waggon; also called the *filler*.

Wicked-mon, *n.* the devil. 'Little childun mustn't tell lies, the *wicked-mon* 'll 'ave um else.'

FINIS.

